



**FROM
THE
DISTANT
NORTH...**

**...THEY
COME,
BRINGING
WITH THEM
THE BLACK
CLOUDS OF
WAR.**

**BEYOND
THE
FROZEN
SEA...**

VINLAND SAGA

CHAPTER 1: NORMANNI

MAKOTO
YUKIMURA





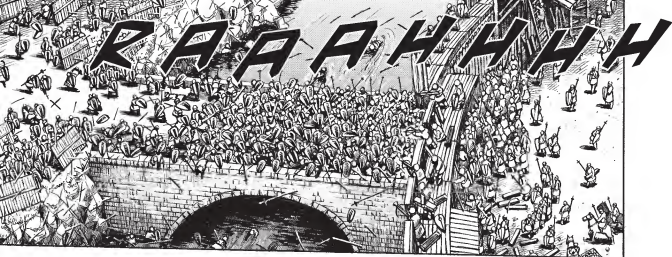
**11TH CENTURY A.D.
FRANKISH KINGDOM
TERRITORY**



WINLAND SAGA

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WHAT'RE
YA WAITIN'
FOR?! BRING
THE GATE
DOWN NOW!!

FWSH

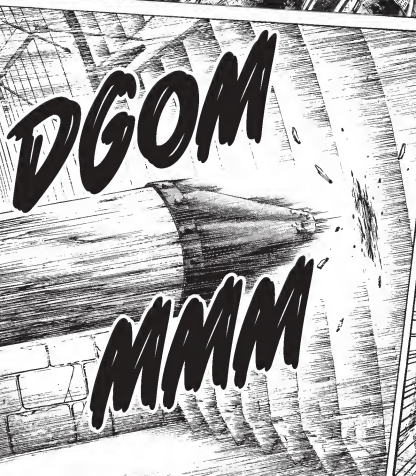
FZMM

SHIT!!

SHIELDS!
WE NEED
MORE
DAMNED
SHIELDS
!!

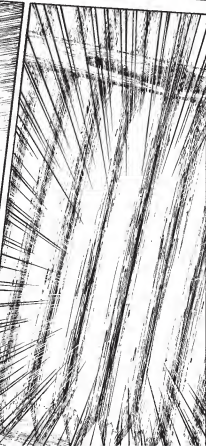
FZMM

AAGH
YAHH



DGOM

MMMM



RAAAHHHH

SHOOT IN
ALTERNATING
ROWS!!

HYMM

PFW

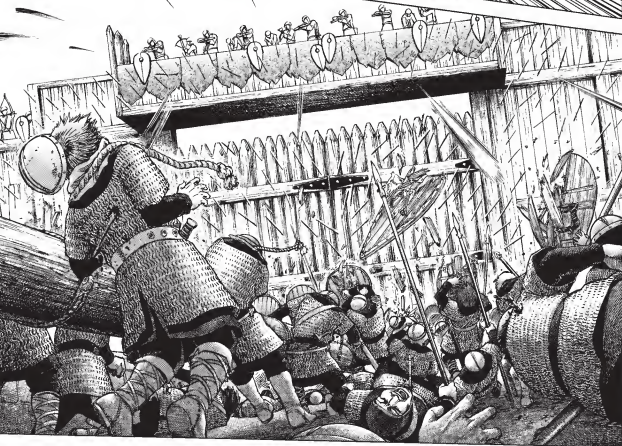
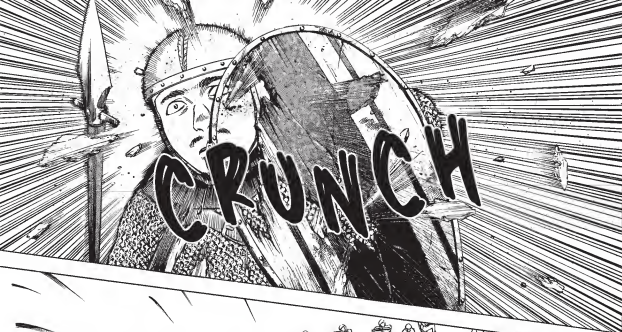
FIRST
ROW,
NOCK!!

IT'S A
BATTERING
RAM!!

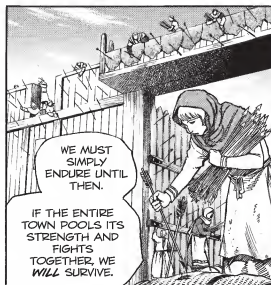
CROSS-
BOWS TO
THE FORE!!

LOOSE!!

BSHU







WE MUST
SIMPLY
ENDURE UNTIL
THEN.

IF THE ENTIRE
TOWN POOLS ITS
STRENGTH AND
FIGHTS
TOGETHER, WE
WILL SURVIVE.



THE SNOW IS
COMING SOON,
AND THAT
WILL FORCE
THE ENEMY TO
ABANDON HIS
SIEGE.



OUCH...



ACK!

THWUP



AAAHH!



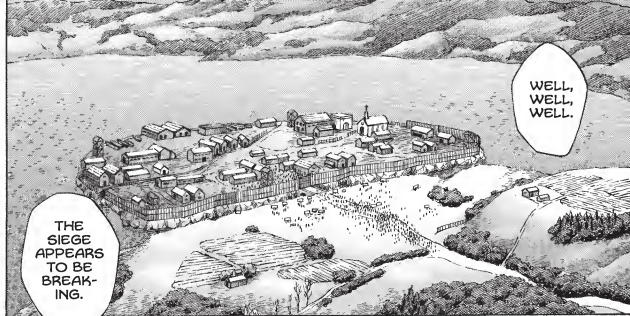
HRRG...

RRGH...



WE ONLY
NEED TO
REINFORCE
THE HILLSIDE
GATE.

THE LAKE
BEHIND US
WILL KEEP
OUR BACKS
SAFE.



THE
SIEGE
APPEARS
TO BE
BREAK-
ING.

WELL,
WELL,
WELL.



I'D
PUT THE
ATTACKERS
AT ABOUT
EIGHT
HUNDRED;
FAR FEWER
IN THE
TOWN.

LIKE WE
THOUGHT,
IT'S A
SKIRMISH
BETWEEN
FRANKISH
TRIBES.



WHAT
DO YOU
THINK,
ASKE-
LADD?

LOOK AT
THE FOOLS,
DASHING
THEIR
HEADS
STRAIGHT
AGAINST
THE
WALLS.

HMM.



MORE
IN IT FOR
US THAT
WAY.

YEP.

AHA!
SO WE'RE
IN?

WILL
WE SIDE
WITH THE
ATTACK-
ERS?



LOOKS
LIKE THE
LOCAL
STRONG-
HOLD TO
ME.

I CAN
PRAC-
TICALLY
SMELL THE
TREASURE
FROM
HERE.



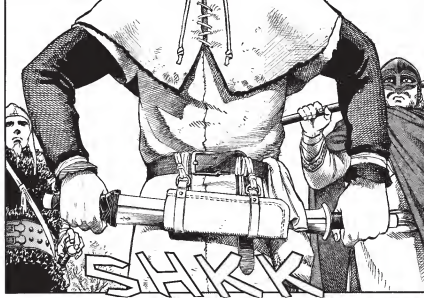
**THOR-
FINN!**
YOU'RE
UP!



NOW
THEN...

BUT WE
DON'T DO
THIS FOR
A PITTANCE.
WE SMASH
THE CHESTS
OPEN AND
SEIZE EVERY
LAST COIN
WITHIN.



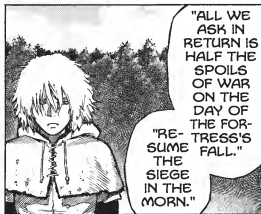
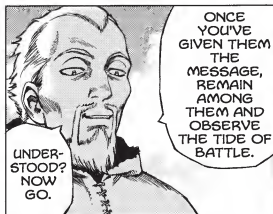
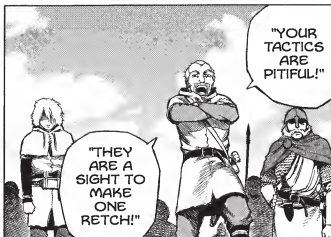
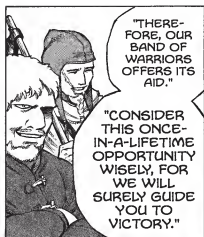


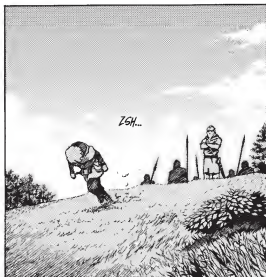
WE'RE
JOIN-
ING
IN.

SEND A
MESSAGE
TO THE
LEADER
OF THE
ATTACKING
ARMY.

HERE'S
THE
TACK
WE
TAKE.









THE
LOSING
SIDE
WILL
BE ON
EDGE.

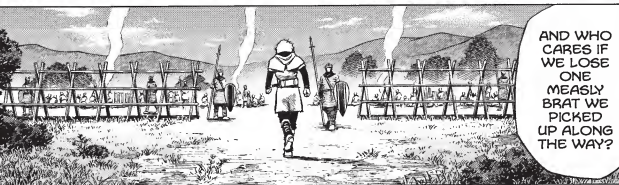
THE ENVOY
MIGHT BE
GUTTED
BEFORE
ANYONE
GETS
TO THE
TABLE.
HAPPENS ALL
THE TIME.



HM...

WHY DO
YOU LET
HIM HANDLE
THE NEGOTIATIONS,
ASKE-
LADD?

LITTLE
BAS-
TARD'S
GOT SUCH
AN ATTITUDE.



AND WHO
CARES IF
WE LOSE
ONE
MEASLY
BRAT WE
PICKED
UP ALONG
THE WAY?



C'EST QUOI,
CE GAMIN!
(WHO ARE YOU,
BOY?!)

HÉ! PAS POUR
DES GOSSES ICI!
(THIS IS NO PLACE
FOR CHILDREN!)

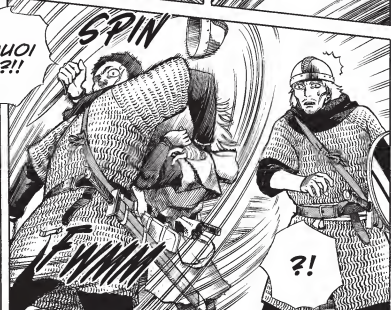




AIIEEEEE
!!

QUOI
?!!

SPIN



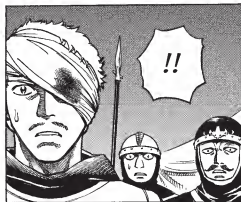
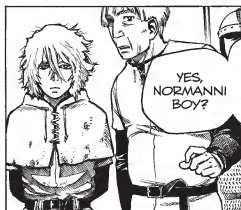
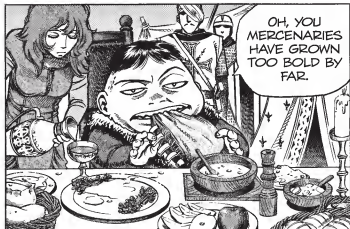
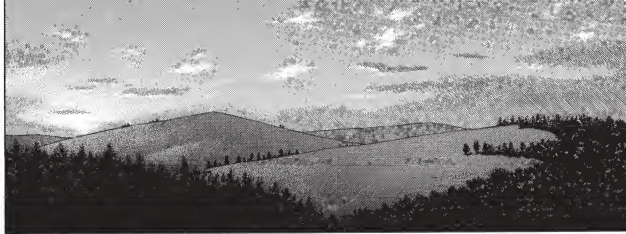
?!

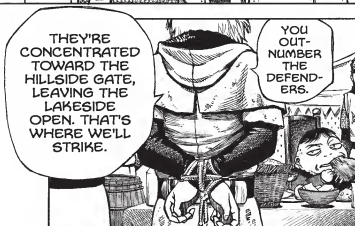
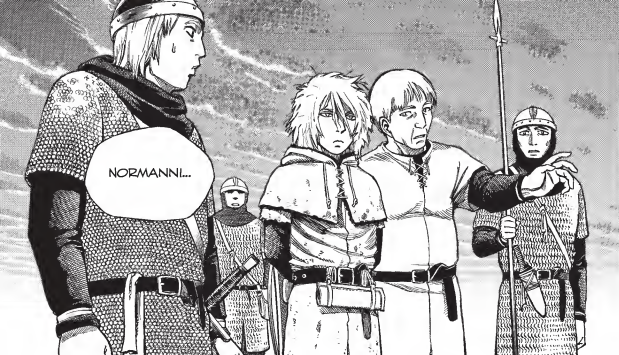


I'M A
MESSEN-
GER!!

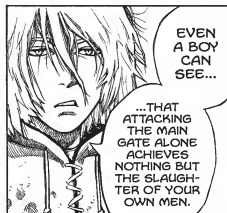
CAN
ANYONE
HERE
SPEAK
NORSE
?!







YOU OUT-NUMBER THE DEFENDERS.





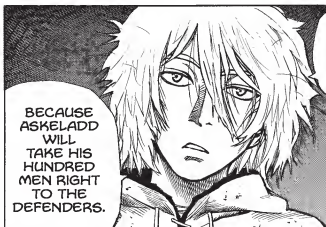
OUR SHIPS
ARE
MAROONED
A MILE
DOWNRIVER.



OTHERWISE
WE *WOULD*
ATTACK BY
WATER.



THE NEAREST
RIVER FLOWS
FIERCER THE
CLOSER YOU GET
TO THE LAKE.
THERE ARE EVEN
WATERFALLS.

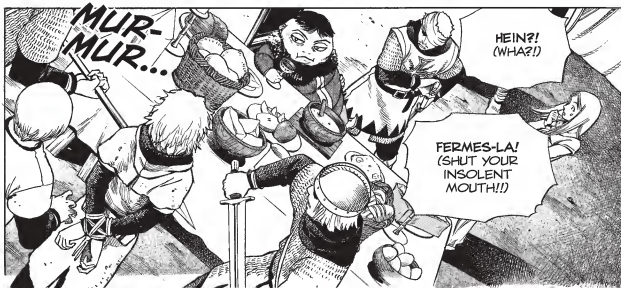


BECAUSE
ASKELADD
WILL
TAKE HIS
HUNDRED
MEN RIGHT
TO THE
DEFENDERS.

SO YOU
WON'T
ACCEPT
OUR
OFFER?



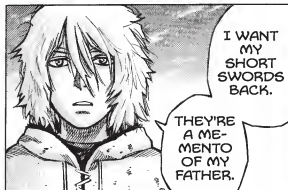
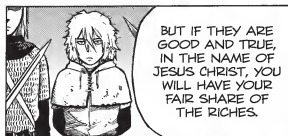
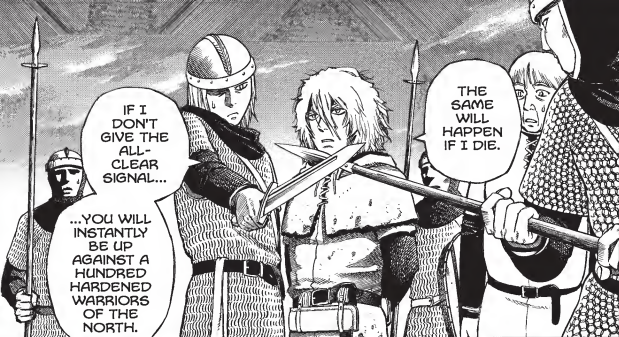
...HE
SAYS.

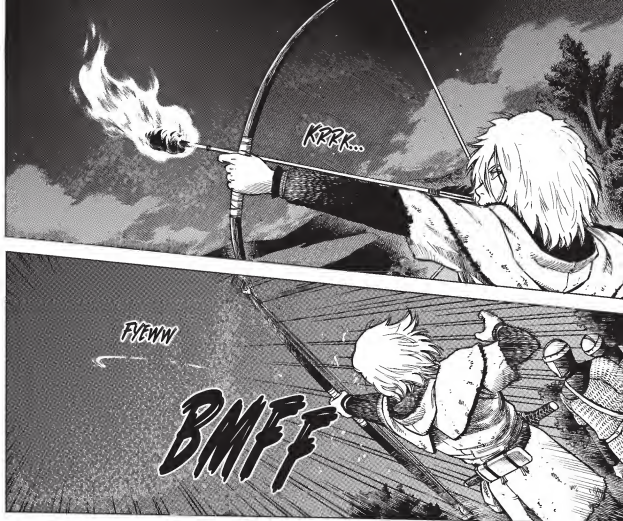


MUR-
MUR...

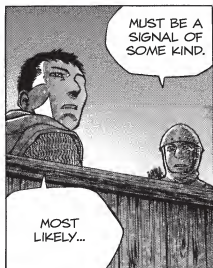
HEIN?!
(WHA?!)

FERMES-LA!
(SHUT YOUR
INSOLENT
MOUTH!!)









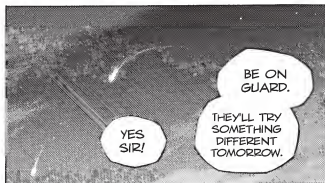
MUST BE A
SIGNAL OF
SOME KIND.

MOST
LIKELY...



ANOTHER
ONE.

THAT
MAKES
FOUR.



YES
SIR!

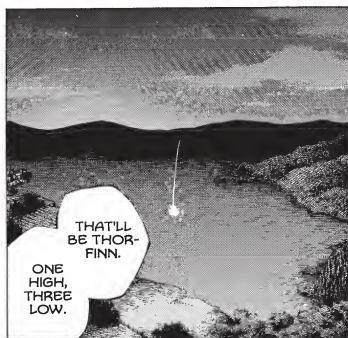
BE ON
GUARD.

THEY'LL TRY
SOMETHING
DIFFERENT
TOMORROW.



...

MAKING
CONTACT
WITH ANOTHER
COMPANY,
PERHAPS?

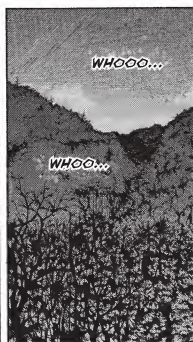


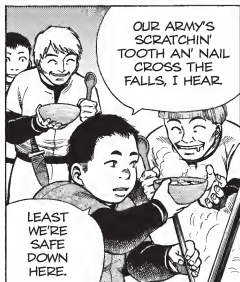
THAT'LL
BE THOR-
FINN.

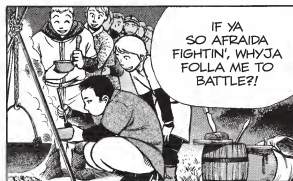
ONE
HIGH,
THREE
LOW.



FSHH...







IF YA
SO AFRAIDA
FIGHTIN', WHYJA
FOLLA ME TO
BATTLE?!



PEH!
COWARD.

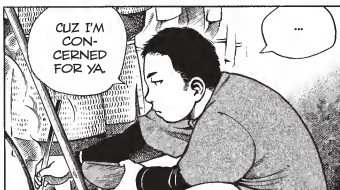
YOU BEEN
YELLA
SINCE WE
WAS KIDS.



WHAT?

WHAAT?

WHAT'S
DIS
NOW,
TUBBY?



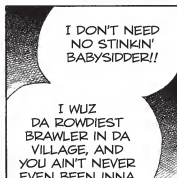
CUZ I'M
CON-
CERNED
FOR YA.

...



LOOK UP
THERE...

WUSS
ALL THE
MUTTERIN'
ABOUT?!



I DON'T NEED
NO STINKIN'
BABYSIDDER!!

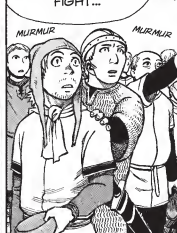
I WUZ
DA ROWDIEST
BRAWLER IN DA
VILLAGE, AND
YOU AIN'T NEVER
EVEN BEEN INNA
FIGHT...



?

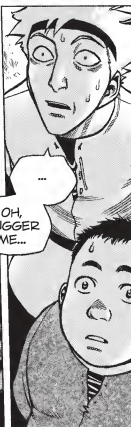


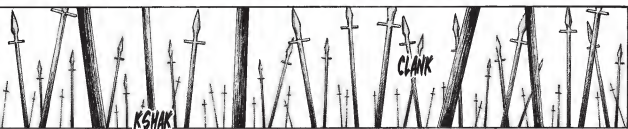
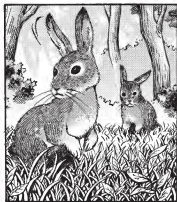
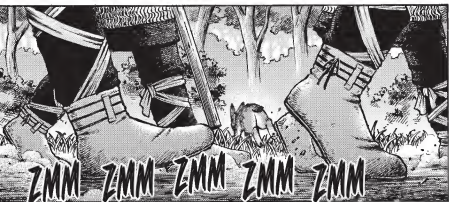
RIGHT
NEAR THE
PEAK
SOMETHIN'
POPPED
UP FOR A
SEC...

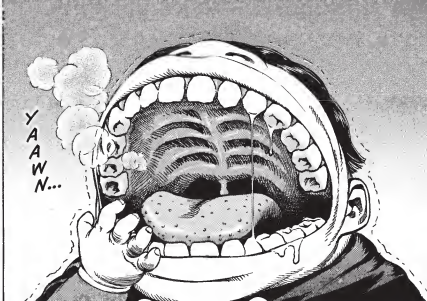


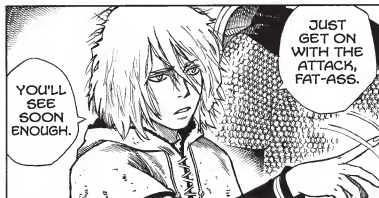
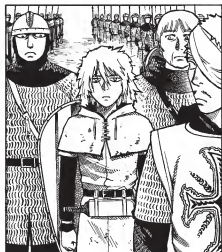
MURMUR

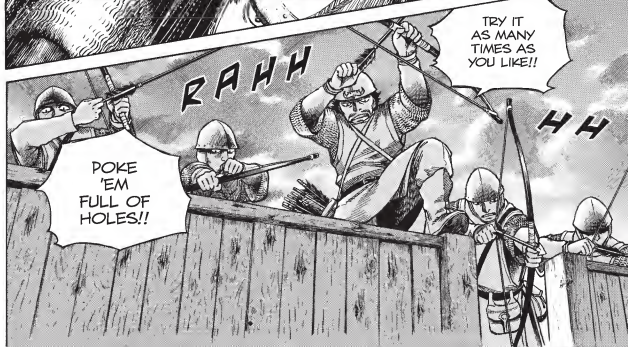
MURMUR

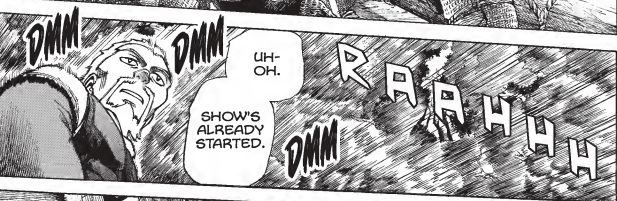
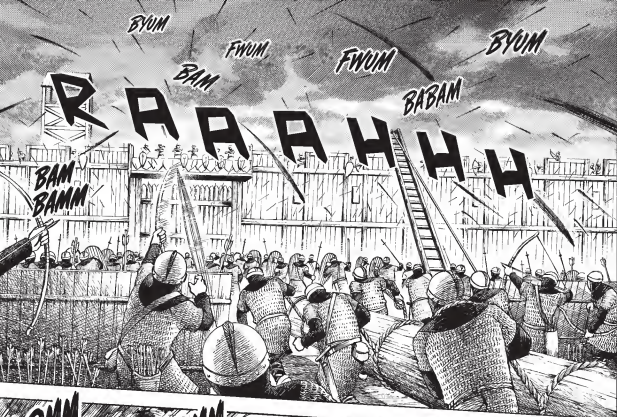






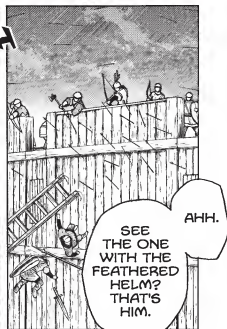
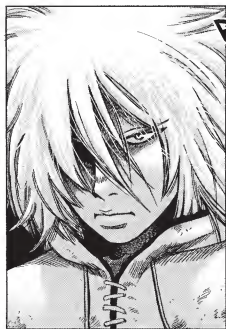
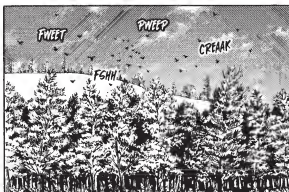
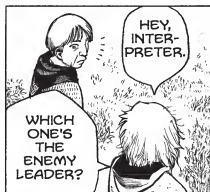


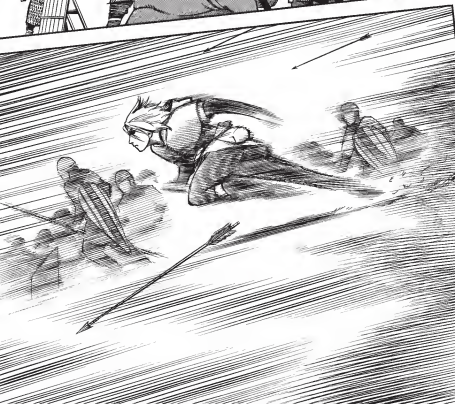
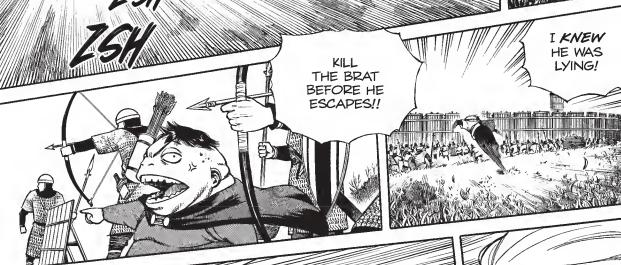


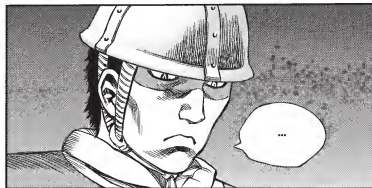
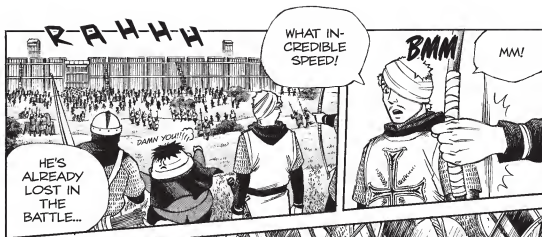


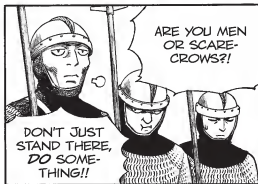
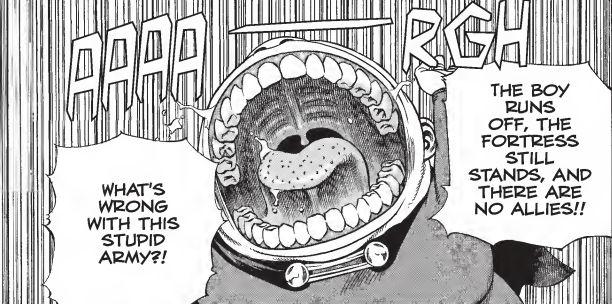


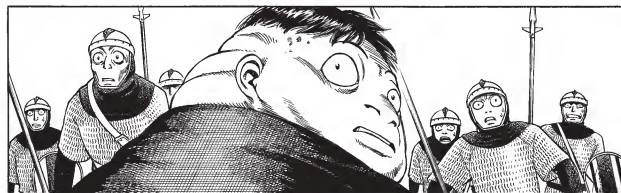


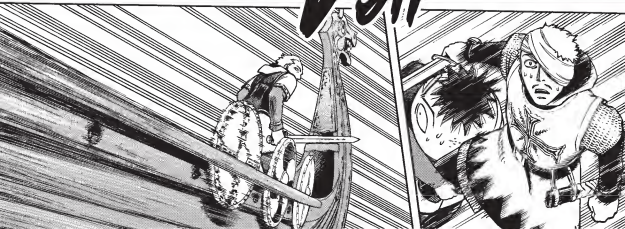


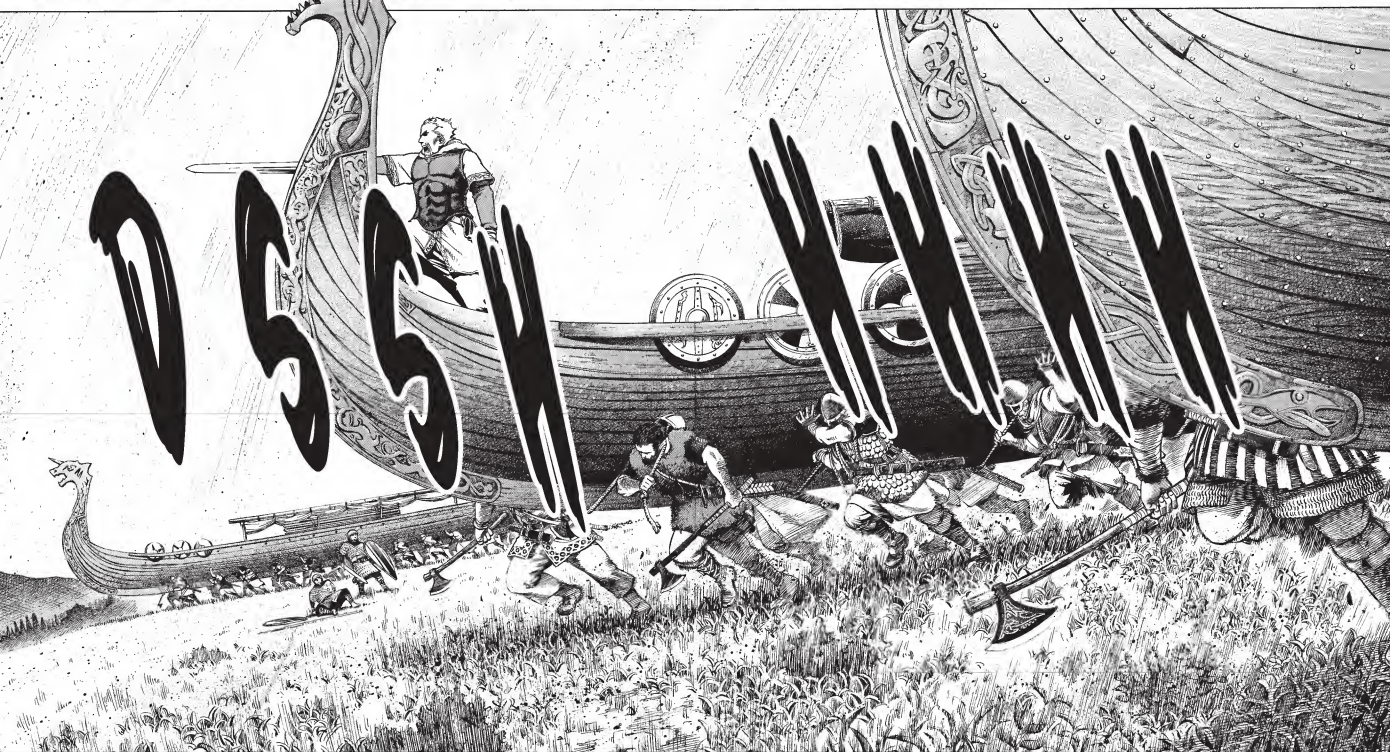
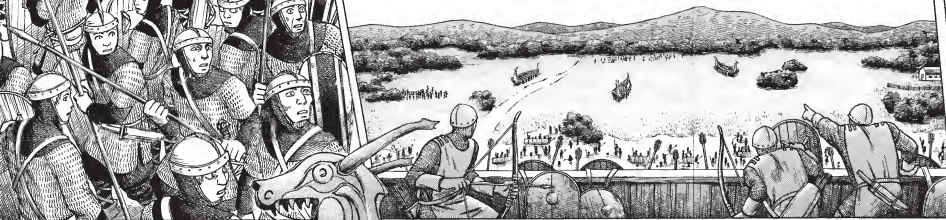






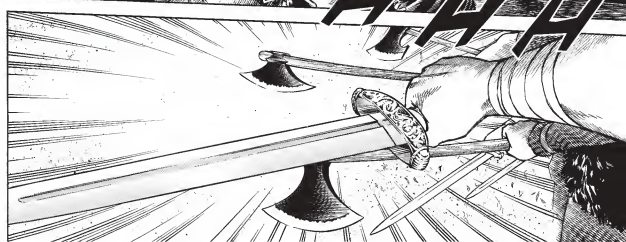








DSHHHH



RAAAHHH

SHIPS!!

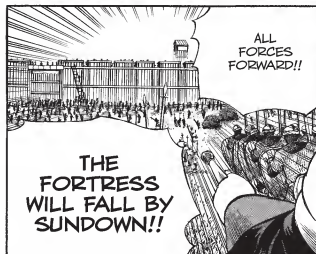
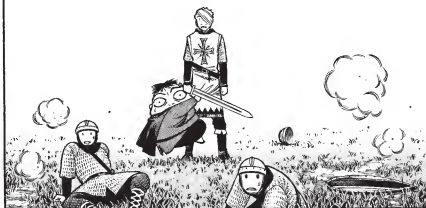
THEY'VE
GOT
SHIPS!!

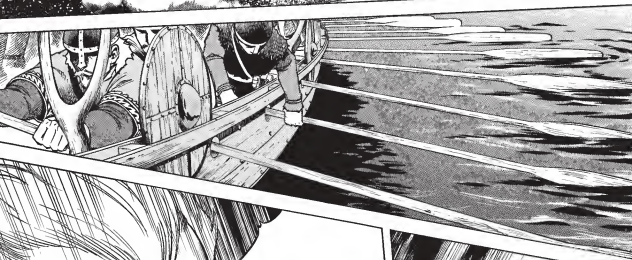
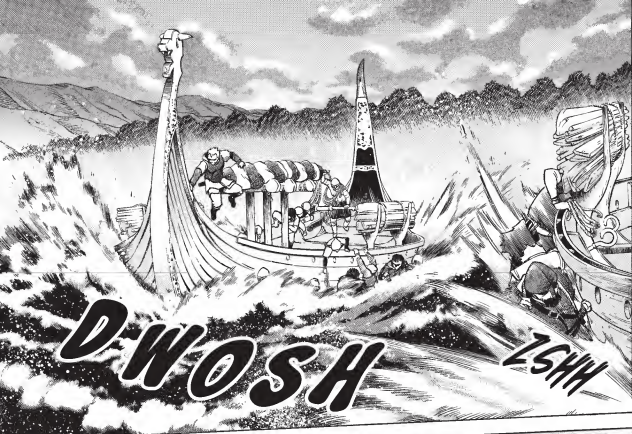
SHIPS
COMING
DOWN
FROM THE
MOUNTAINS!!

CLEVER
BASTARDS...

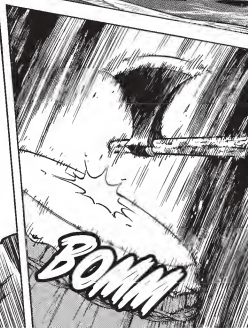
CARRYING
THEIR OWN
SHIPS
OVER THE
MOUNTAIN...

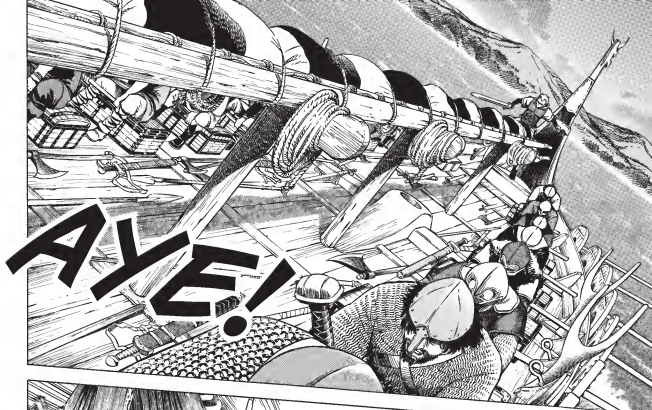




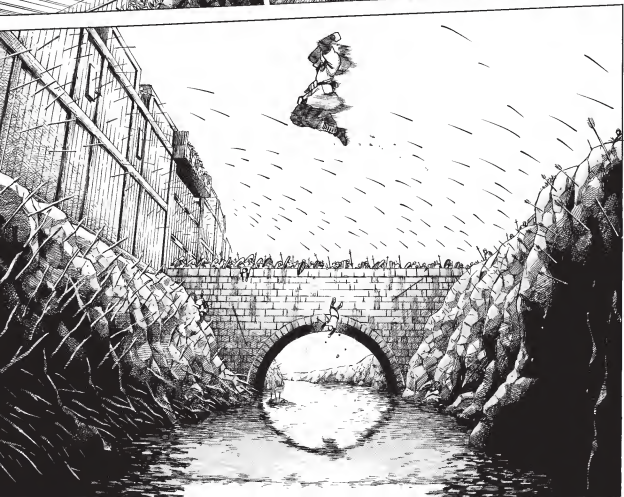


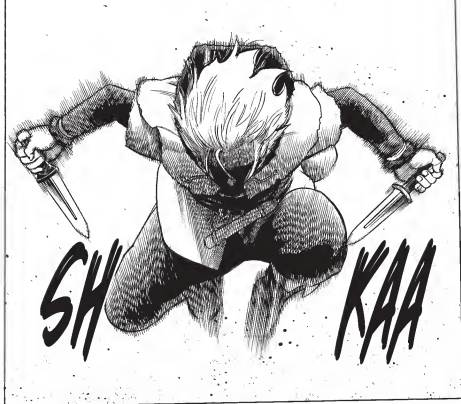
PUT
YOUR
BACKS
INTO IT!
PULL!!



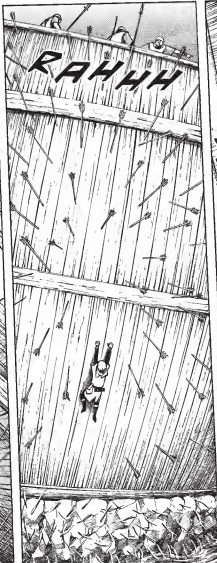


THE FIRST
SHIP TO
REACH THE
SHORE
GETS A
DOUBLE
SHARE!!





THEY'RE
BRINGING
SHIPS!!





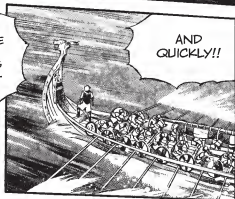
LONG-SHIPS!!

THEY'RE
GOING
TO SWING
AROUND THE
BACK!!



IT'S A
PINCER
ATTACK!

DO WE
EVEN HAVE
ANYONE
GUARDING
THE LAKE-
SIDE?!



AND
QUICKLY!!



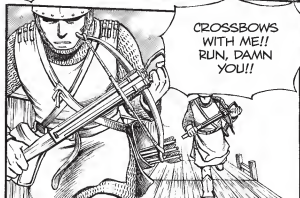
I WANT EIGHTY
MEN FROM THE
RIGHT WING TO
THE LANDING!
DON'T LET THEM
ASHORE!!

THE REST
OF YOU,
REMAIN
HERE AT
THE GATE!!

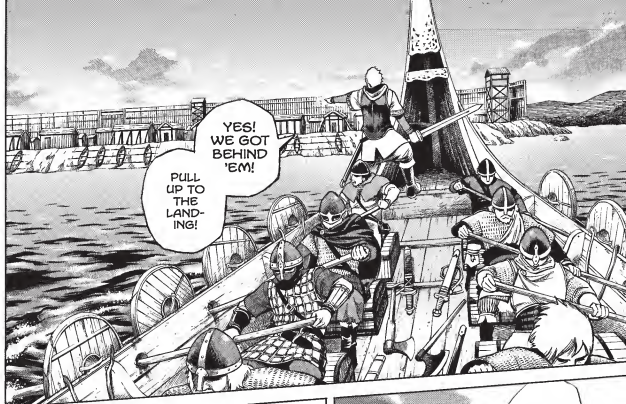


KEEP YOUR
WITS, MEN!!

IT'S ONLY
THREE
SHIPS!!



CROSSBOWS
WITH ME!!
RUN, DAMN
YOU!!



YES!
WE GOT
BEHIND
'EM!

PULL
UP TO
THE
LAND-
ING!



IT'S
LIKE
THEY'RE
ASKIN' US
TO LAND.

NOT A
SINGLE
LINE OF
DEFENSE,
JUST A
GENTLE
SLOPE TO
GREET US.



HA HA!
IT'S
TOO
EASY.



GLINT

WHUMM

WHFF

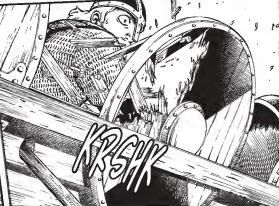
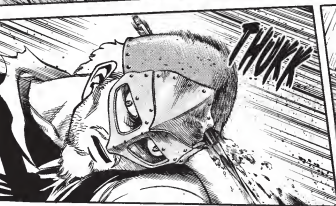
BAM

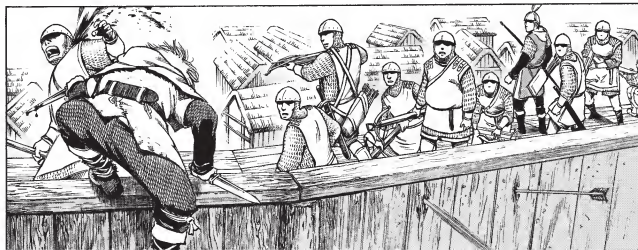
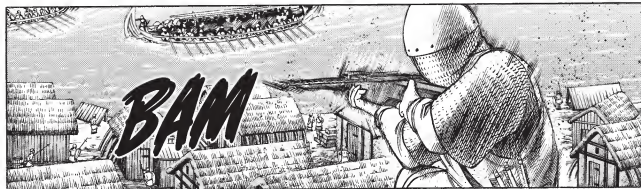
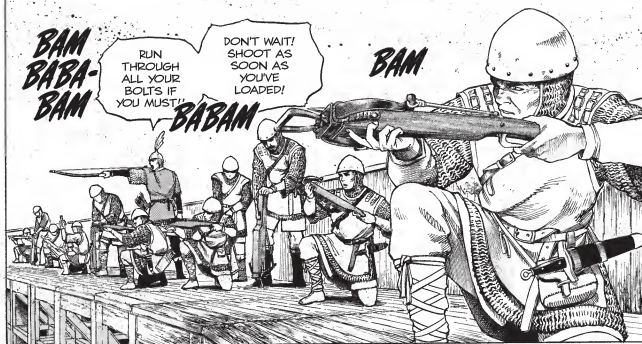
BABAM

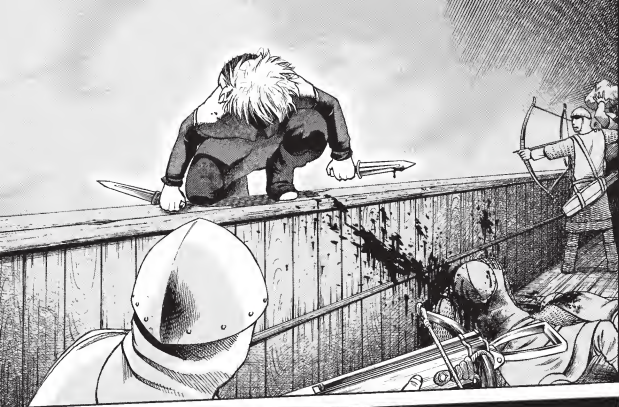


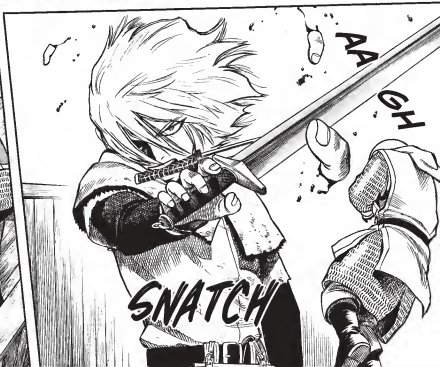
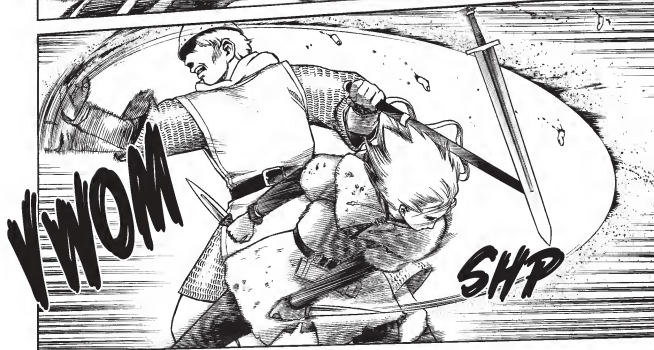
LET'S
CRUSH
'EM,
BOYS!!

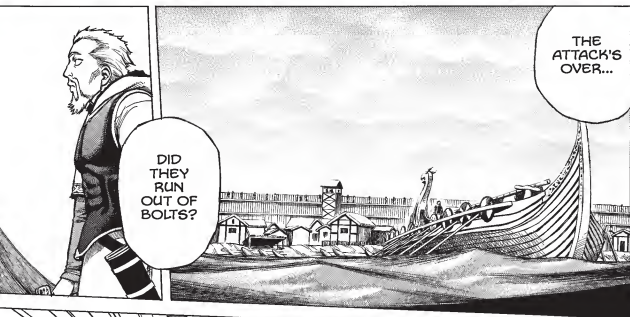
ZSHH

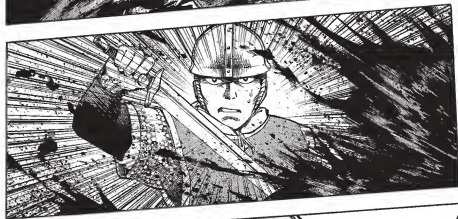


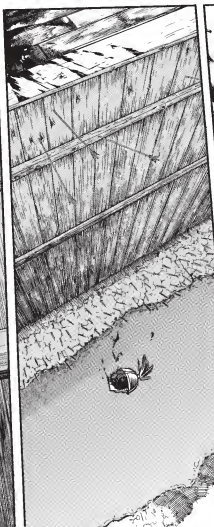
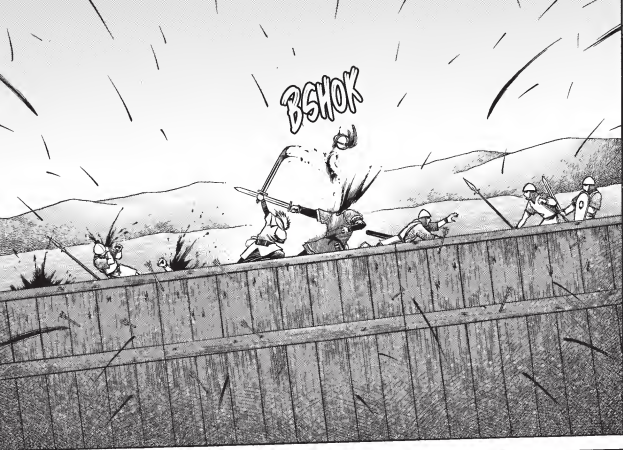


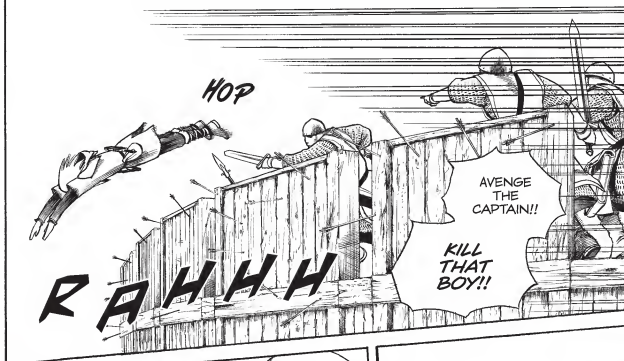










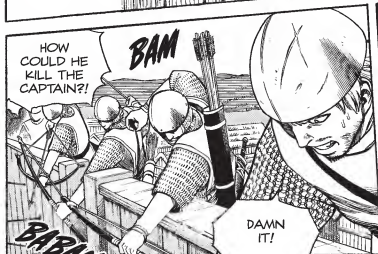


HOP

RAHHH

AVENGE
THE
CAPTAIN!!

KILL
THAT
BOY!!

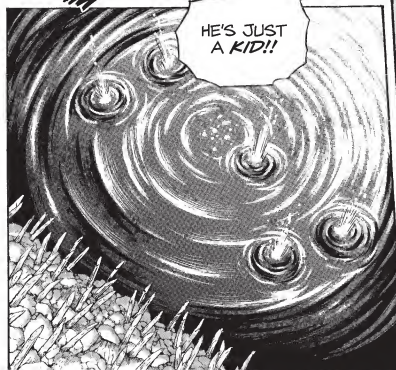


HOW
COULD HE
KILL THE
CAPTAIN?!

BAM

BABAM

DAMN
IT!

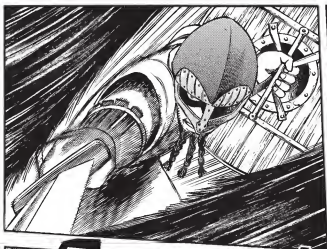
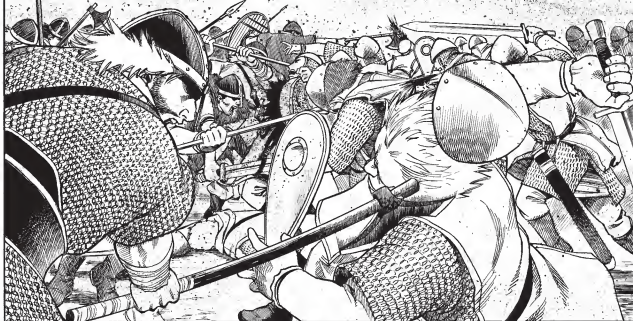


HE'S JUST
A KID!!



KABLOOSH





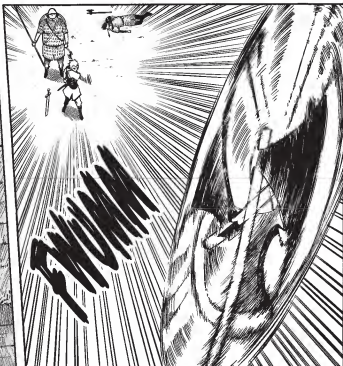
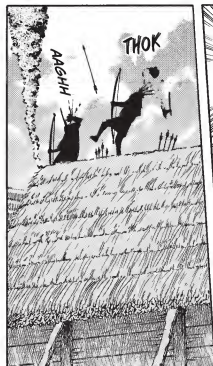
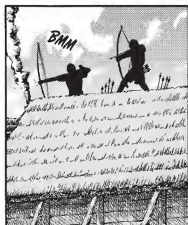
RAAHWW

RAISE
SOME
HELL!!

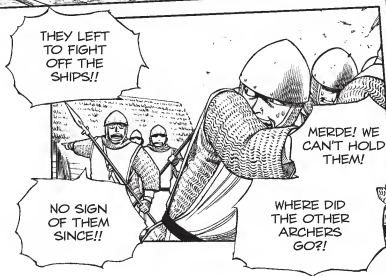
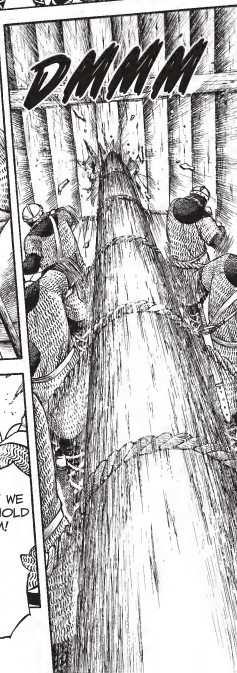
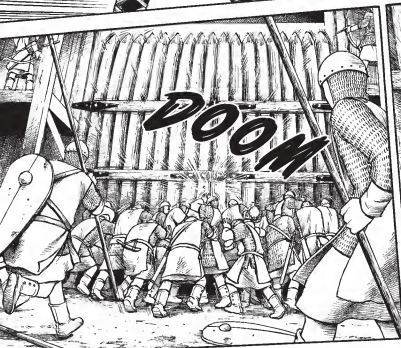
THEY'VE
GOT THEIR
HANDS FULL
DEFENDING
THE GATE,
SO THEY
WON'T BE
COMING
HERE!!

THEY'RE
SO RELY
OUTNUM-
BERED!







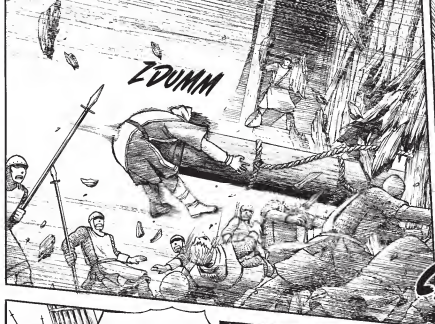


THEY LEFT
TO FIGHT
OFF THE
SHIPS!!

MERDE! WE
CAN'T HOLD
THEM!

NO SIGN
OF THEM
SINCE!!

WHERE DID
THE OTHER
ARCHERS
GO?!



ZDUMMM

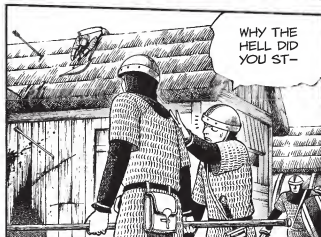
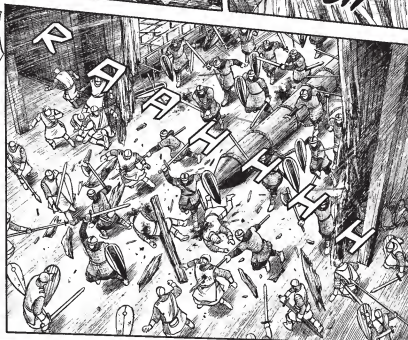


CRACKCH



THERE ARE
STILL A GOOD
TWO HUNDRED
OF THEM
LEFT!!

DON'T LET
UP! CRUSH
THEM ALL!!



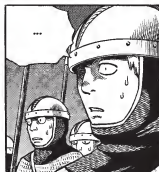
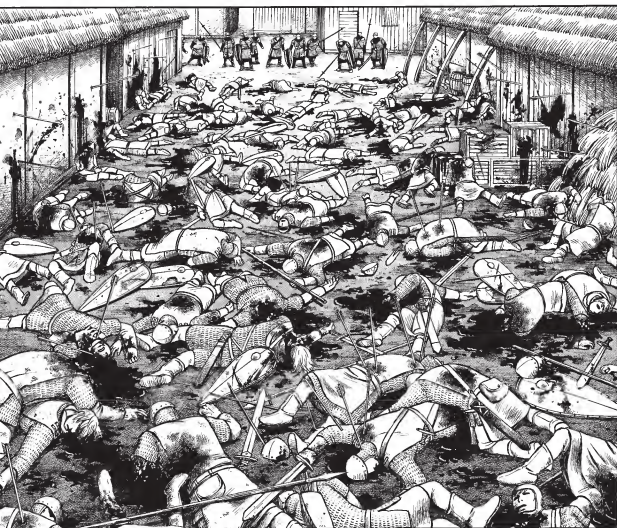
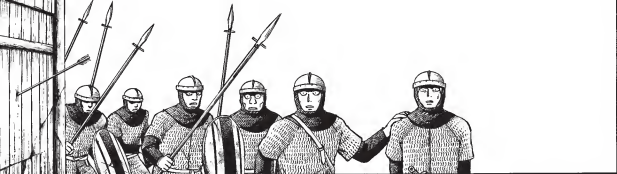
WHY THE
HELL DID
YOU ST-



YEOW!

RAHH

THUMP





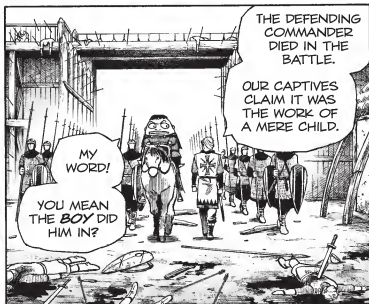
SEE? WITH THOSE
MERCENARIES
ON MY SIDE, A
FORTRESS THIS
MEASLY IS NO
CHALLENGE AT
ALL!

NGA HA HA
HA HA!



HE BURST
ONTO THE
RAMPARTS
WAVING TWO
KNIVES.

HRMM...

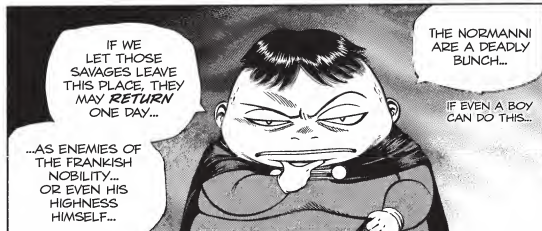


THE DEFENDING
COMMANDER
DIED IN THE
BATTLE.

OUR CAPTIVES
CLAIM IT WAS
THE WORK OF
A MERE CHILD.

MY
WORD!

YOU MEAN
THE **BOY** DID
HIM IN?

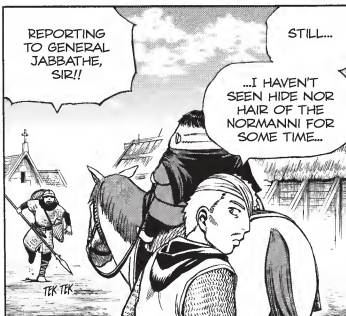
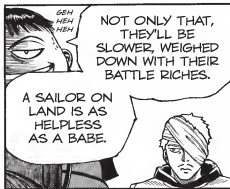
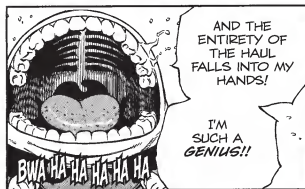


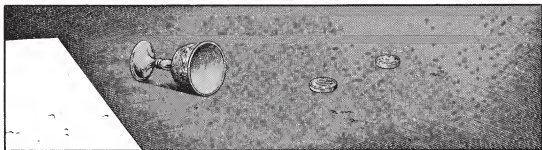
IF WE
LET THOSE
SAVAGES LEAVE
THIS PLACE, THEY
MAY **RETURN**
ONE DAY...

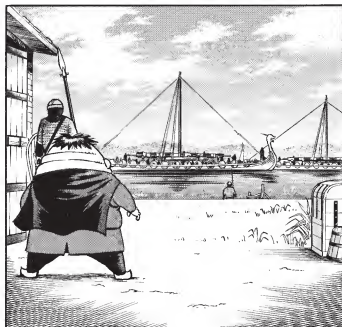
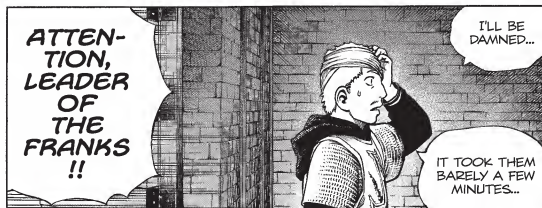
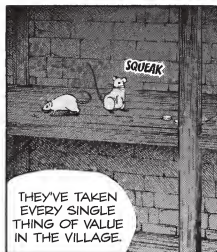
...AS ENEMIES OF
THE FRANKISH
NOBILITY...
OR EVEN HIS
HIGHNESS
HIMSELF...

THE NORMANNI
ARE A DEADLY
BUNCH...

IF EVEN A **BOY**
CAN DO THIS...









...WHILE WE
HUMBLY
ACCEPT THE
TREASURE! I
TRUST YOU
HAVE NO
COMPLAINTS?

IN THE
INTEREST
OF A FAIR
SPLIT, WE
GRANT
YOU THE
VICTORY...

WHYYYYY,
YOOOHUUU...

!!

AFTER ALL,
YOU ARE
NOW THE
PROUD
OWNER
OF YOUR
VERY OWN
FORTRESS.

ALL
IN ALL,
I THINK IT
QUITE A
REASON-
ABLE COM-
PROMISE
ON OUR
PART.

THEY'VE
SMASHED
ALL OF THE
FORTRESS'S
SHIPS
ALREADY...

THEY'RE
GOING DOWN
THE FALLS.
SEND THE
SHIPS!

HOLD!

B-BUT,
SIR...

PIRATES!!

MISERS!!

BEASTS!!

SWINDLERS!!

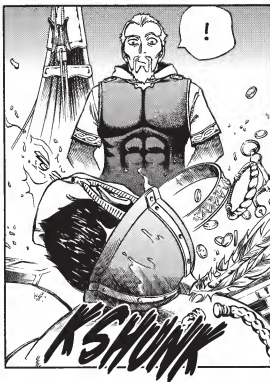
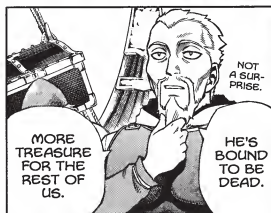
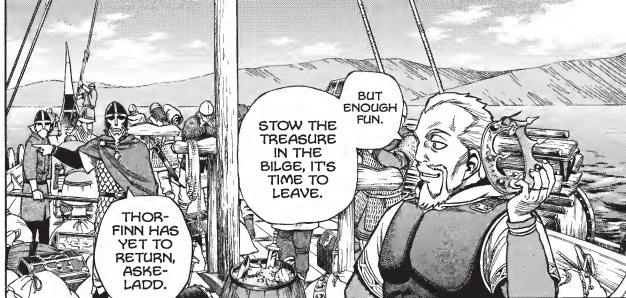
YOKELS!!

WHAT'S
THAT?
SORRY,
MY
FRANK-
ISH IS
RUSTY.

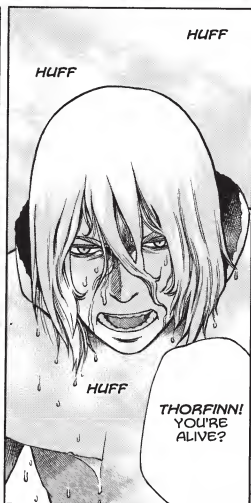
**FILTHY
BARBARIANS
!!**

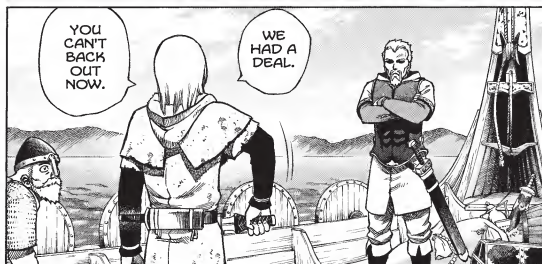
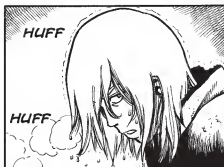
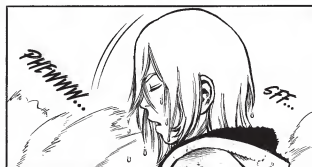
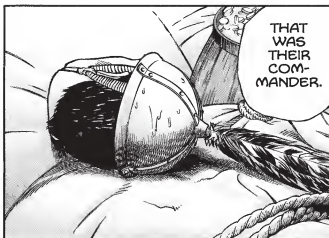
IN THAT CASE,
SEND OUR
FASTEST HORSE
TO OUR SHIPS
BELOW THE
FALLS!!

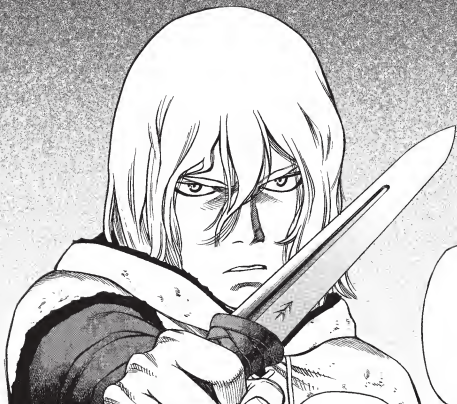
AYE,
SIR!



SPLA ASH







I,
THORFINN,
SON OF
THORS,
WARRIOR
OF ICE-
LAND...

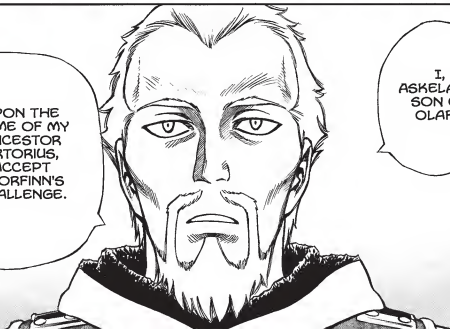
UPON MY
FATHER'S
BLADE, DO
SEEK A
DUEL WITH
ASKELADD.



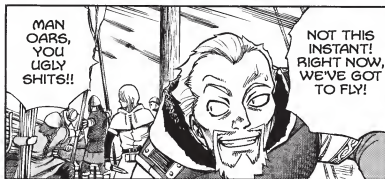
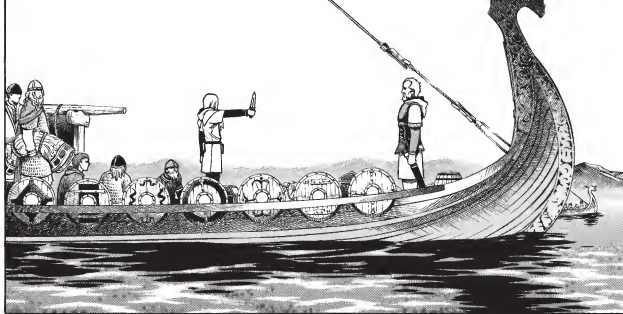
TO
AVENGE
MY
FATHER'S
DEATH.

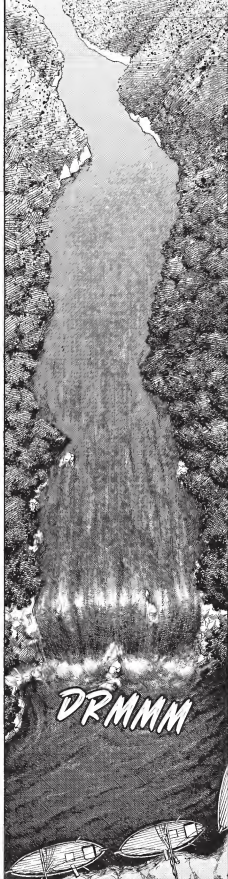
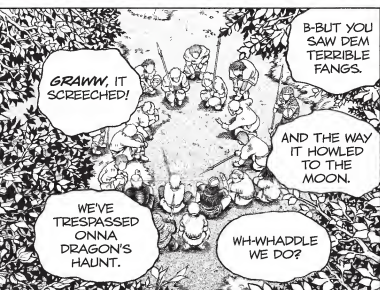
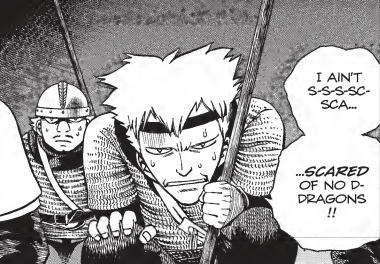


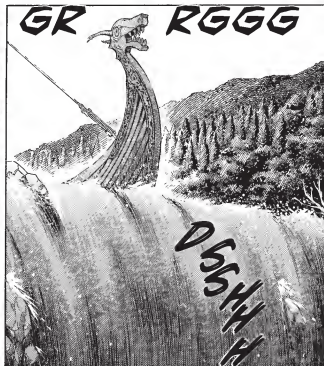
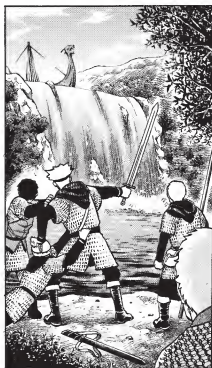
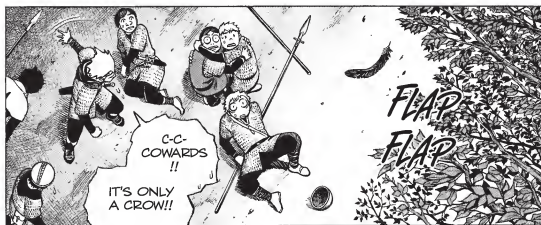
UPON THE
NAME OF MY
ANCESTOR
ARTORIUS,
ACCEPT
THORFINN'S
CHALLENGE.

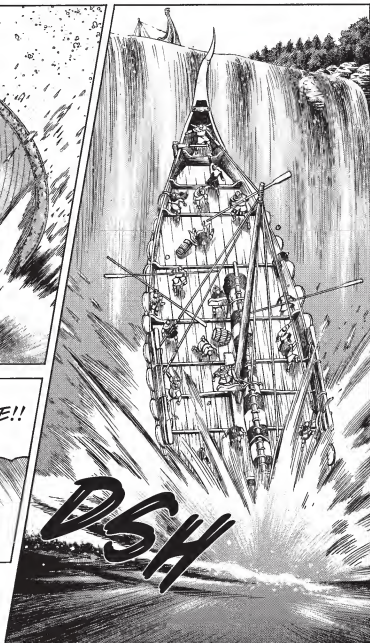
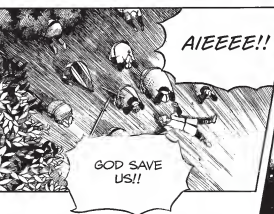
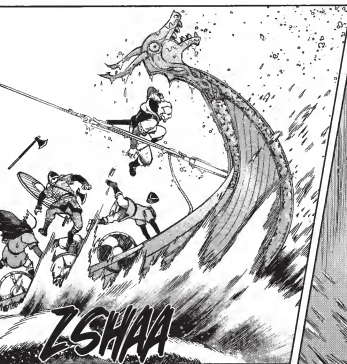


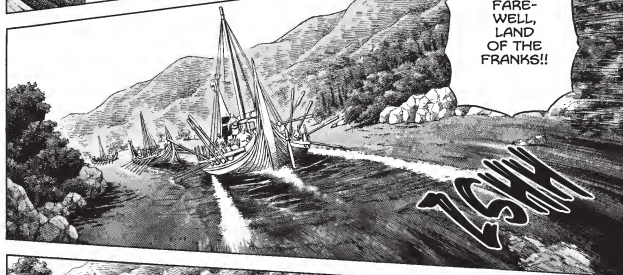
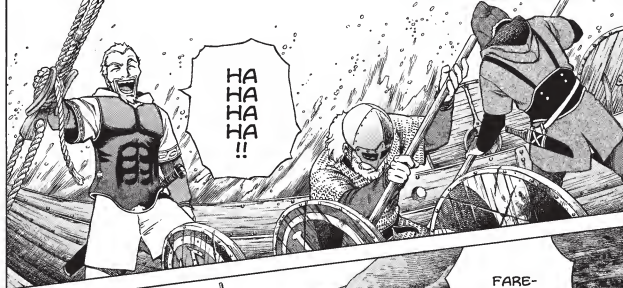
I,
ASKELADD,
SON OF
OLAF...









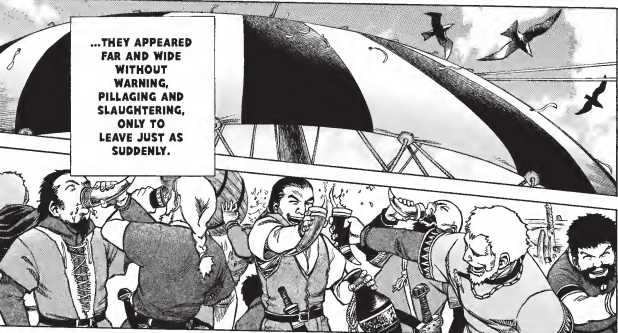


...A NORTHERN
EUROPEAN
PEOPLE
TERRORIZED
THE CIVILIZED
WORLD IN THEIR
DRAGON-HEADED
SHIPS.

FOR ROUGHLY
THREE
HUNDRED
YEARS,
STARTING IN
THE EIGHTH
CENTURY
A.D....



FROM WESTERN
EUROPE TO
RUSSIA, NORTH
AFRICA, GREECE,
TURKEY, EVEN
THE MIDDLE
EAST...

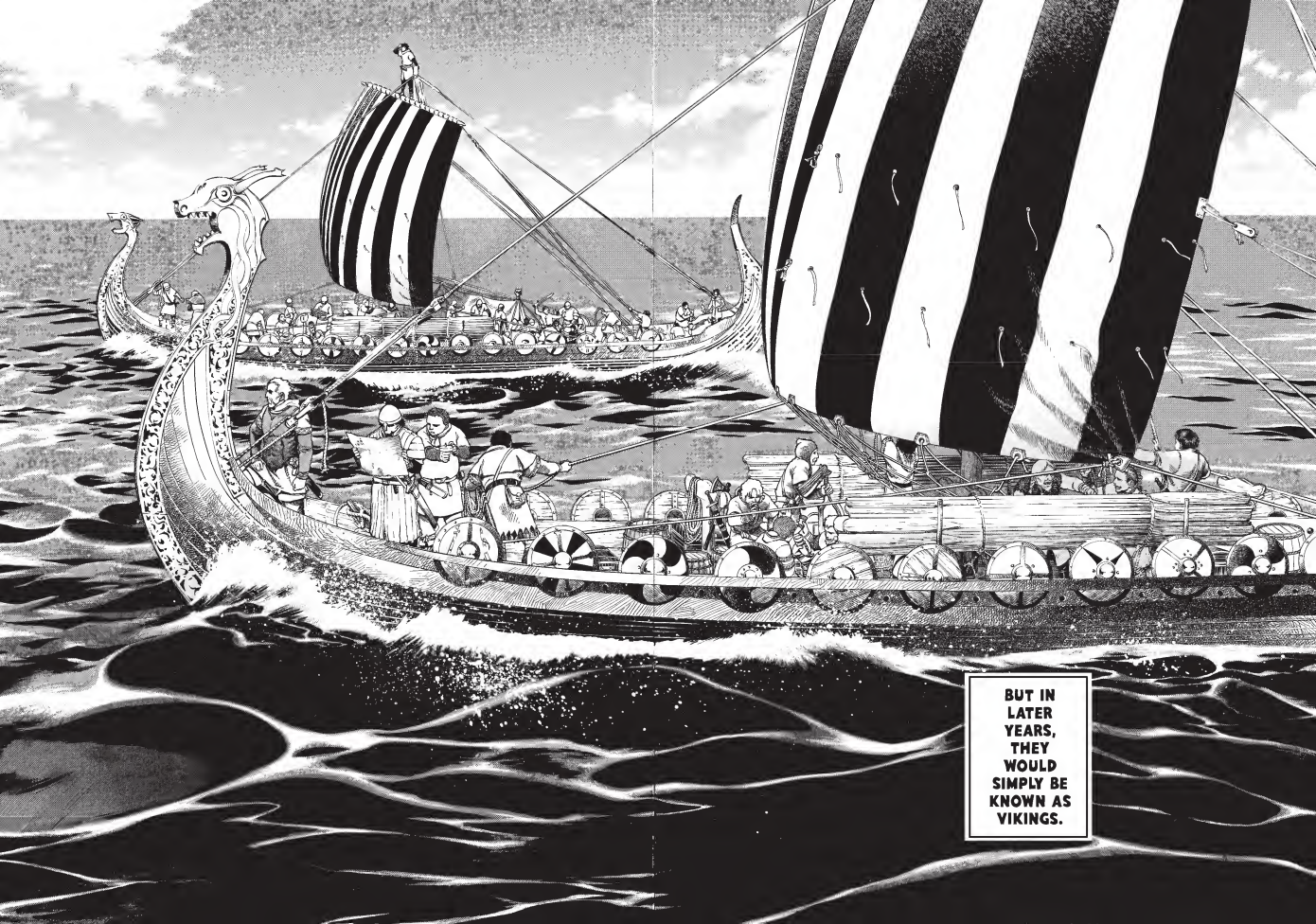


...THEY APPEARED
FAR AND WIDE
WITHOUT
WARNING,
PILLAGING AND
SLAUGHTERING,
ONLY TO
LEAVE JUST AS
SUDDENLY.

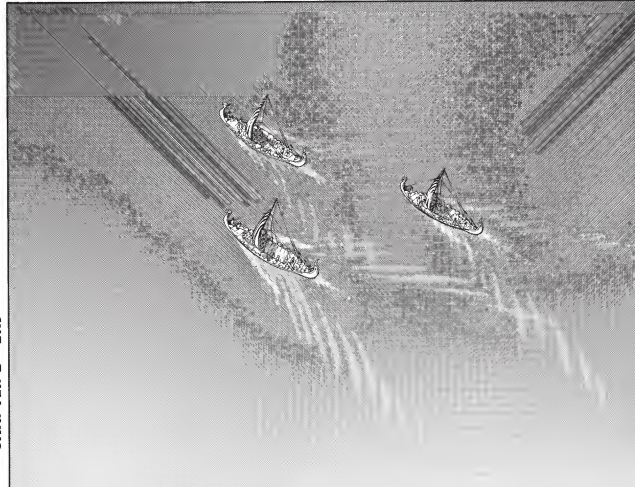
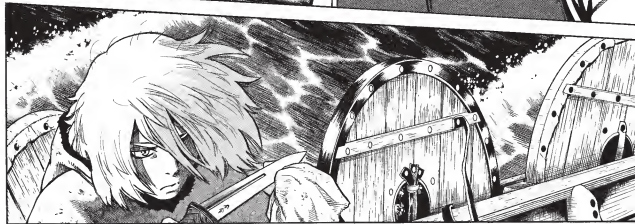
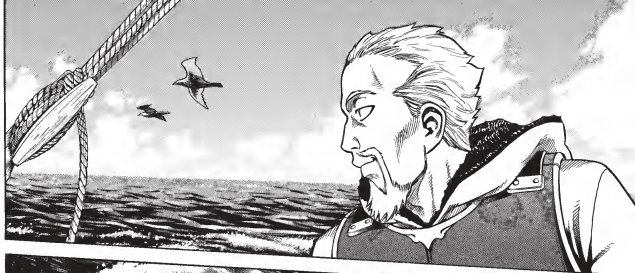


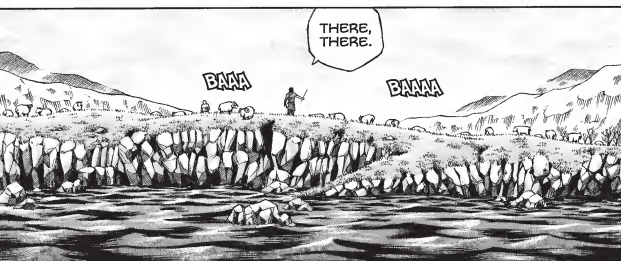
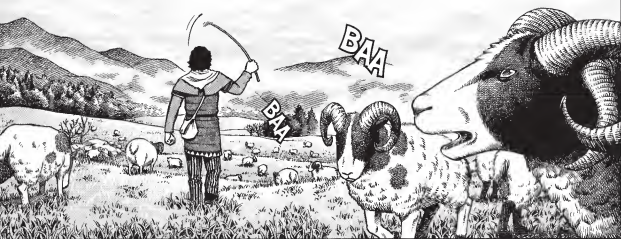
IN OLD
FRANKISH,
THEY
WERE THE
NORMANNI.

IN ENGLAND,
THEY WERE
THE DANES;
TO THE
BYZANTINE
EMPIRE, THE
RUS OR ROS.

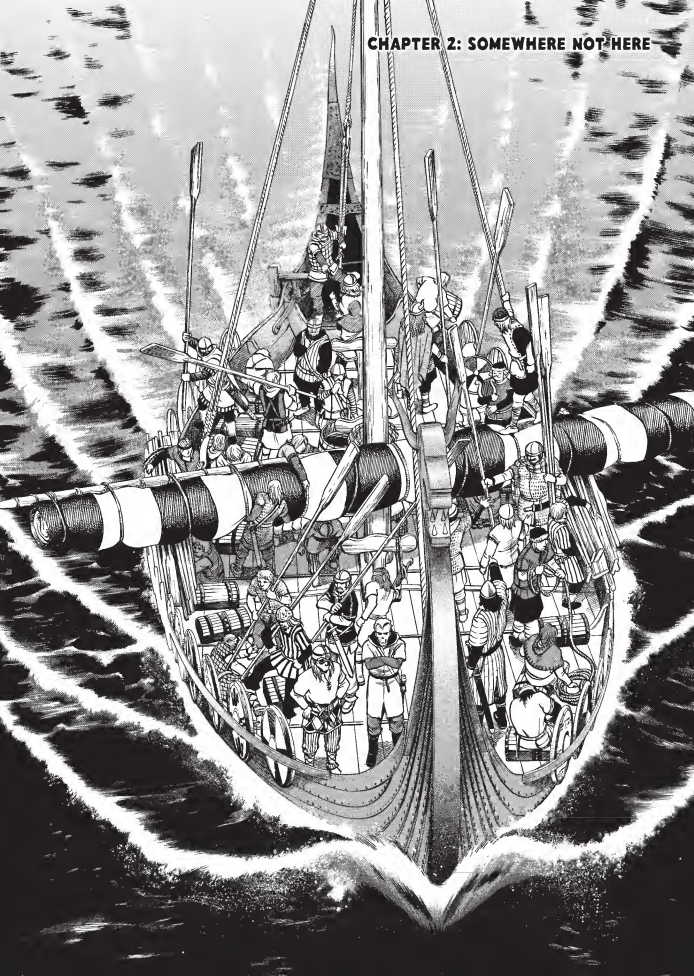


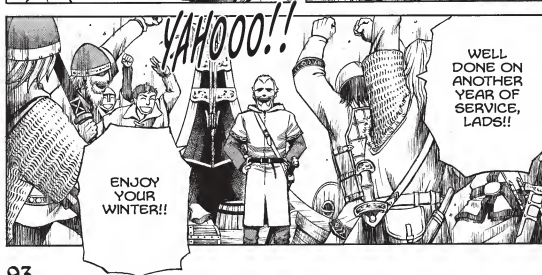
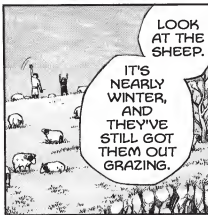
**BUT IN
LATER
YEARS,
THEY WOULD
SIMPLY BE
KNOWN AS
VIKINGS.**

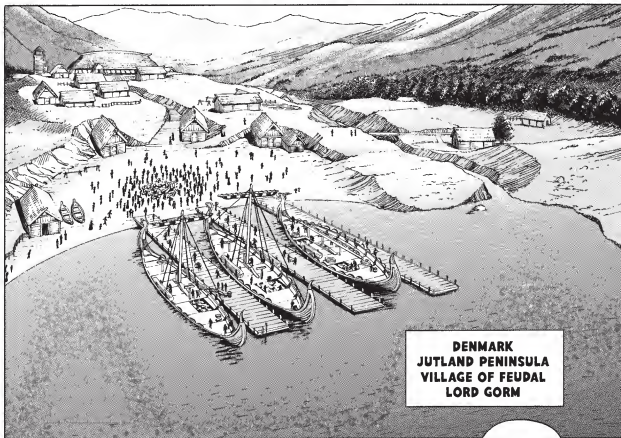
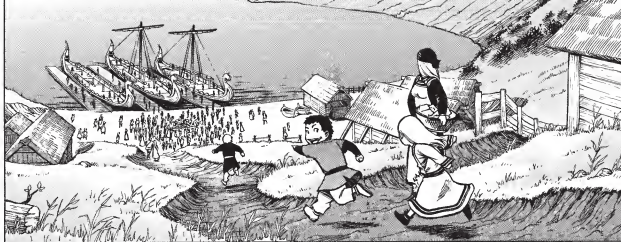




CHAPTER 2: SOMEWHERE NOT HERE







**DENMARK
JUTLAND PENINSULA
VILLAGE OF FEUDAL
LORD GORM**



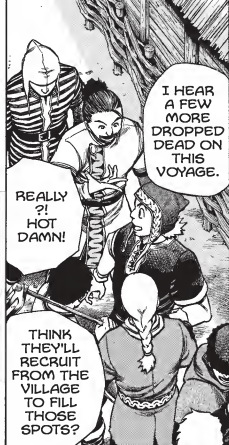


HA HA HA

I CAN FEEL MY BLOOD BOILING ALREADY!

THREE DAYS AND YOU'D BE OFF TO VALHALLA.

WHEN I GO RAIDING, ASKELADD'S SHIP IS THE ONLY ONE FOR ME!



I HEAR A FEW MORE DROPPED DEAD ON THIS VOYAGE.

REALLY ?!
HOT DAMN!

THINK THEY'LL RECRUIT FROM THE VILLAGE TO FILL THOSE SPOTS?



AYE.

STILL, I'D SURE LOVE TO SEE SOME FOREIGN LANDS, EH?



OH, DON'T BE LIKE THAT, MA...

HA HA...

I'M A MAN, I CAN'T HELP IT!

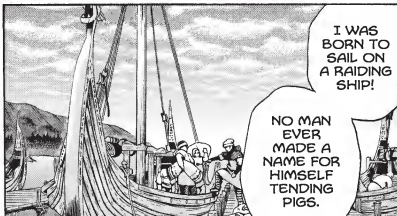


DON'T SAY SUCH THINGS, FOOLISH BOY!

IF YOU UP AND LEAVE, WHO WILL BE THE MAN OF THE HOUSE?!

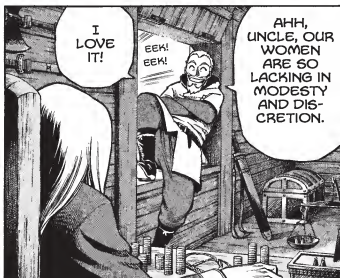
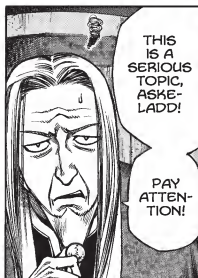
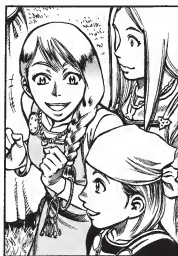


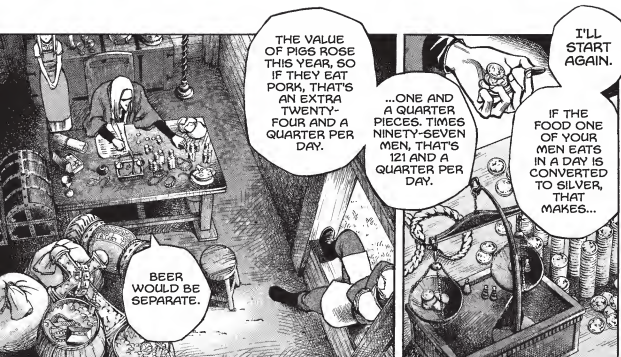
...



I WAS BORN TO SAIL ON A RAIDING SHIP!

NO MAN EVER MADE A NAME FOR HIMSELF TENDING PIGS.





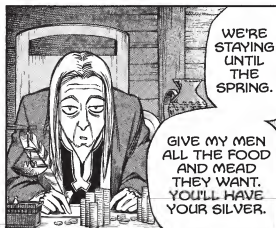
THE VALUE OF PIGS ROSE THIS YEAR, SO IF THEY EAT PORK, THAT'S AN EXTRA TWENTY-FOUR AND A QUARTER PER DAY.

...ONE AND A QUARTER PIECES. TIMES NINETY-SEVEN MEN, THAT'S 121 AND A QUARTER PER DAY.

I'LL START AGAIN.

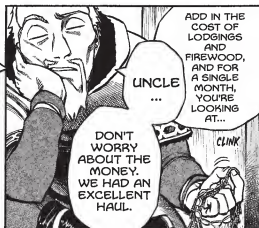
IF THE FOOD ONE OF YOUR MEN EATS IN A DAY IS CONVERTED TO SILVER, THAT MAKES...

BEER WOULD BE SEPARATE.



WE'RE STAYING UNTIL THE SPRING.

GIVE MY MEN ALL THE FOOD AND MEAD THEY WANT. YOU'LL HAVE YOUR SILVER.

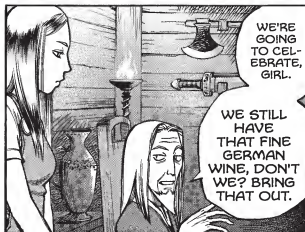


ADD IN THE COST OF LODGINGS AND FIREWOOD, AND FOR A SINGLE MONTH, YOU'RE LOOKING AT...

UNCLE ...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE MONEY. WE HAD AN EXCELLENT HAUL.

CLINK



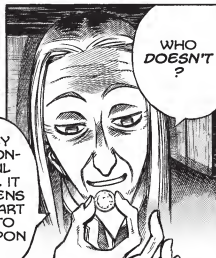
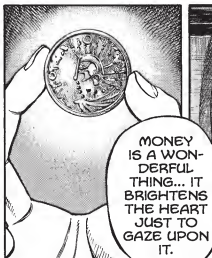
WE'RE GOING TO CELEBRATE, GIRL.

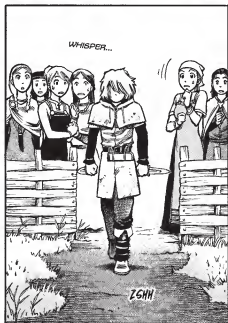
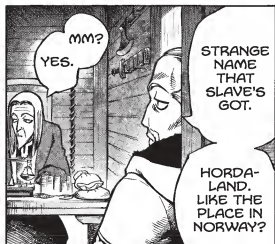
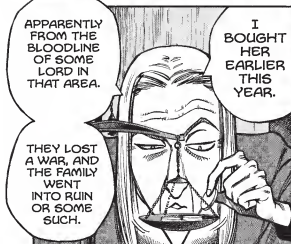
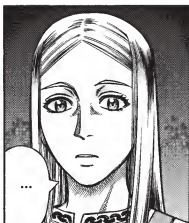
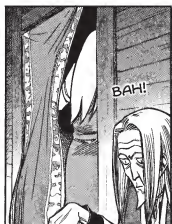
WE STILL HAVE THAT FINE GERMAN WINE, DON'T WE? BRING THAT OUT.

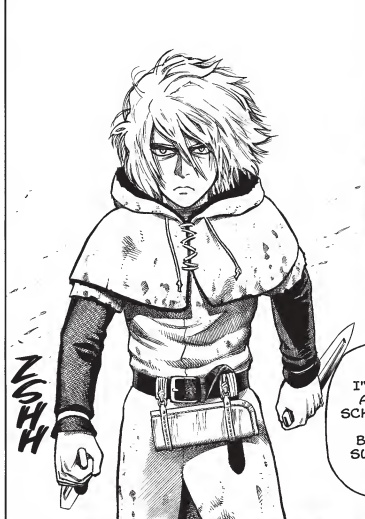


THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO HEAR, ASKE-LADD.

GRIN
DRINK YOUR FILL.







BY
THE
WAY...

...COULD
I ASK
YOU TO
WITNESS
FOR ME?

I'VE GOT
A DUEL
SCHEDULED
JUST
BEFORE
SUPPER...



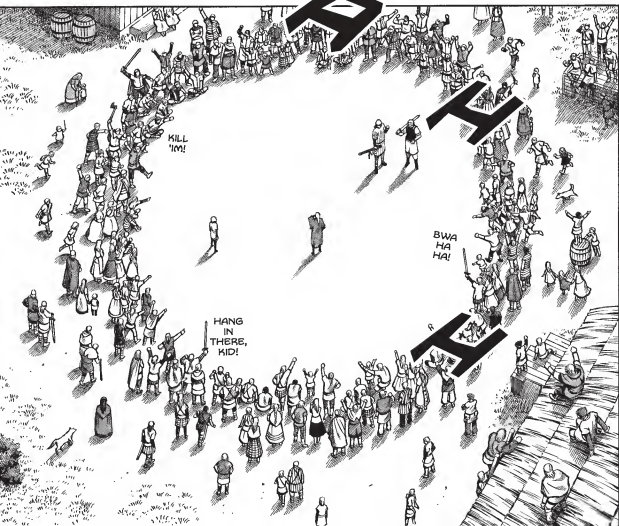
ALSO,
UNCLE...

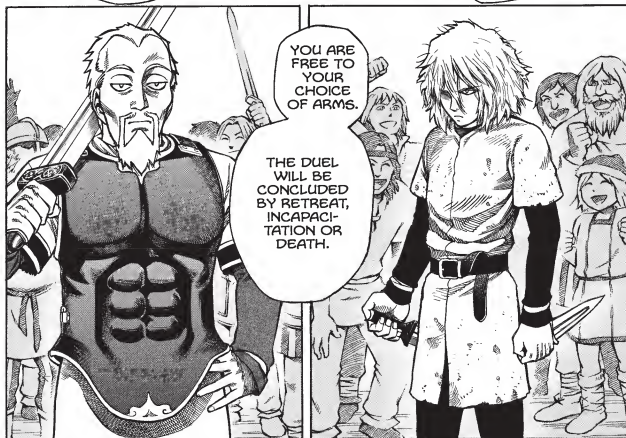
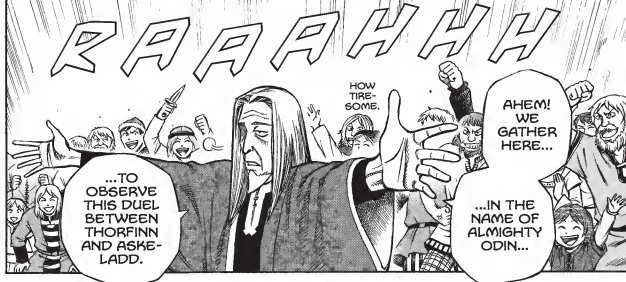
IT'S NOT
THE SLAVE'S
FAULT THAT
SHE'S BEEN
USELESS.
IT'S YOUR
POOR
HANDLING.

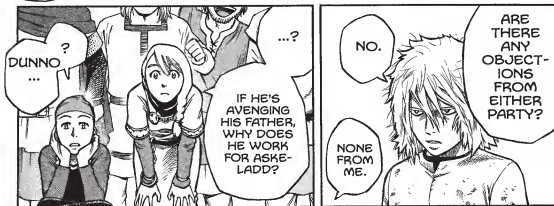
A
DUEL?

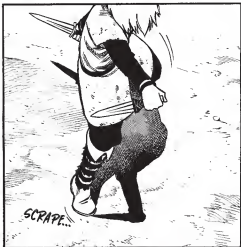
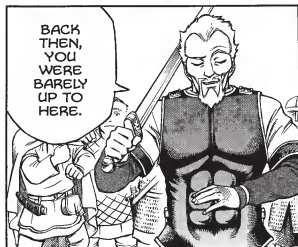


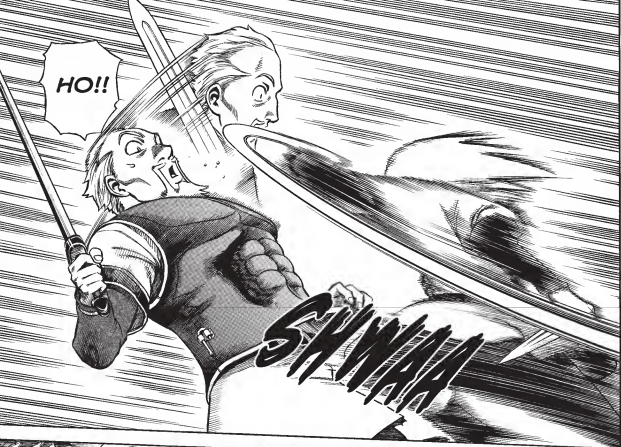
THERE'S A
TRICK TO
MANIPULAT-
ING EVERY
HUMAN
BEING.

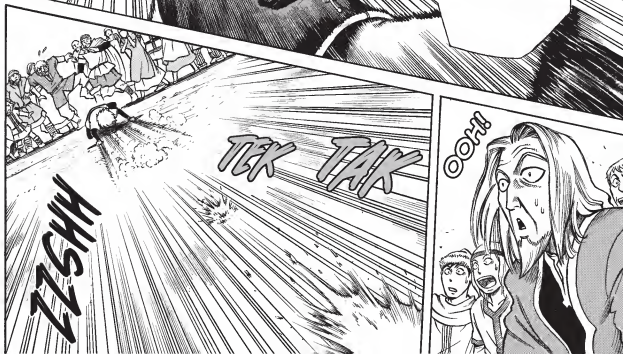
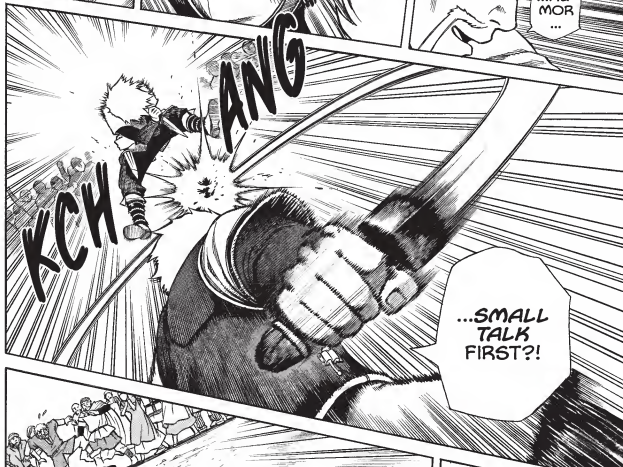


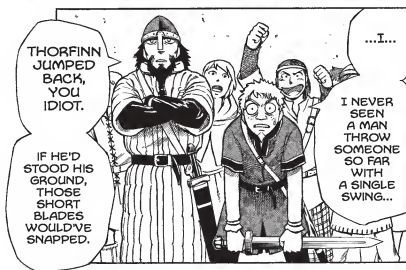
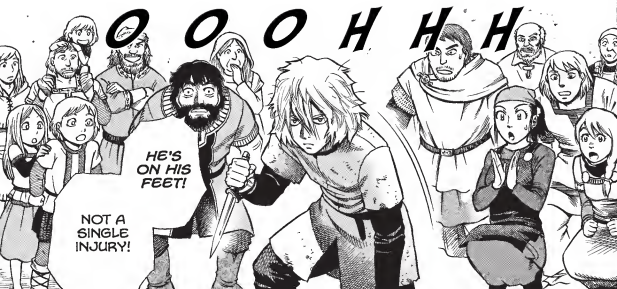




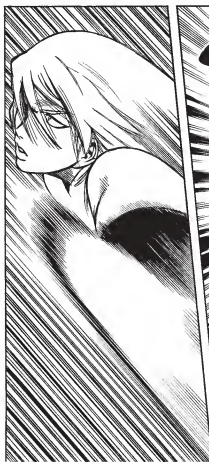
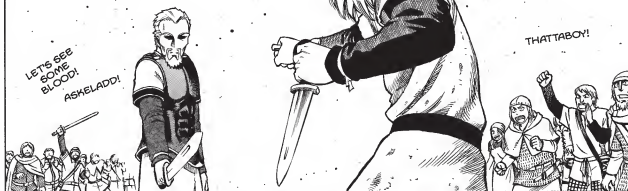




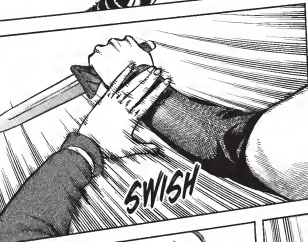
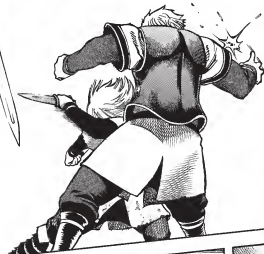




RAAA HH

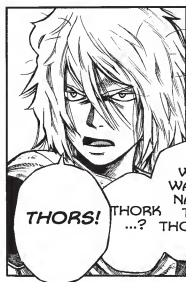


INGGG...



WHY'D HE PULL BACK? THAT WAS HIS CHANCE!

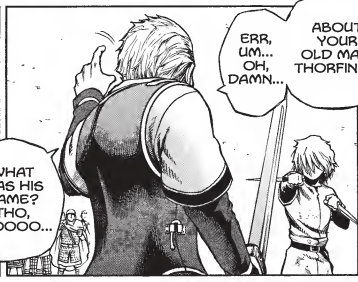




THORS!

THORK
...? THOOOO...

WHAT
WAS HIS
NAME?
THO,
...? THOOOO...



ERR,
UM...
OH,
DAMN...

ABOUT
YOUR
OLD MAN,
THORFINN...

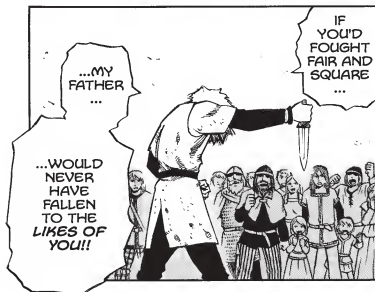
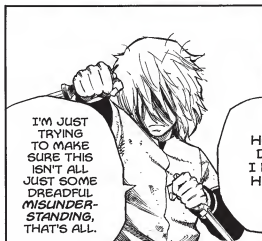
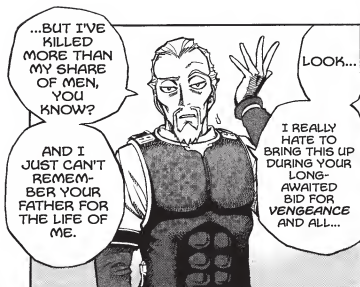


MY
MEMORY
ISN'T
WHAT IT
USED TO
BE, SADLY.

OF
COURSE.

THORS!!
RIGHT,
THAT WAS
IT.







IF
YOU...

...HADN'T
TAKEN
ME...

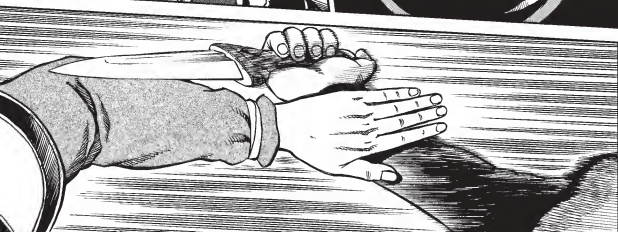
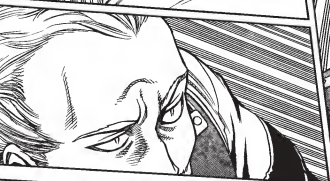


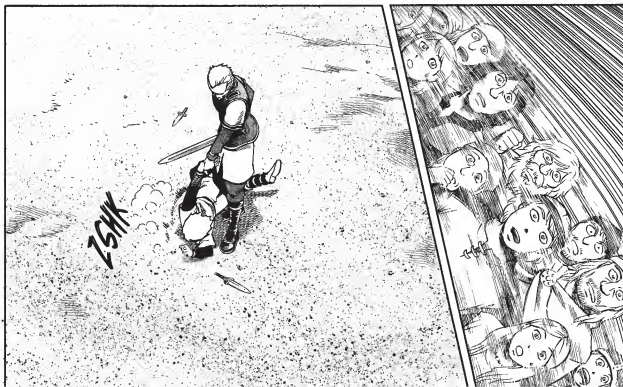
HE WAS THE
FOOL WHO
GAVE UP
HIS LIFE IN
EXCHANGE
FOR HIS
BOY'S.

OHhh,
YES!
NOW IT'S
COMING
BACK.

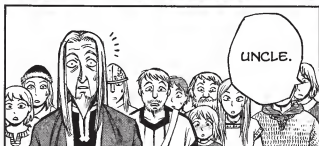


...HOS-
TAGE...



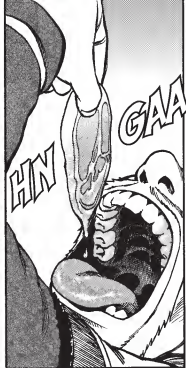


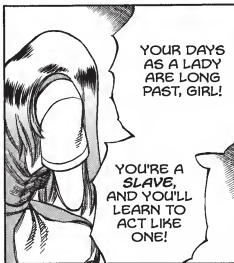
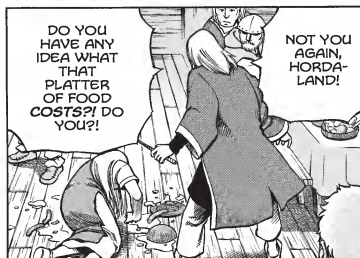
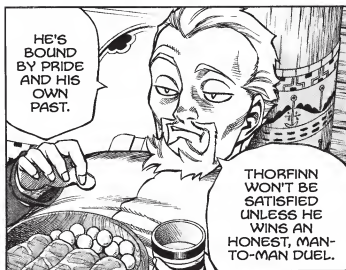


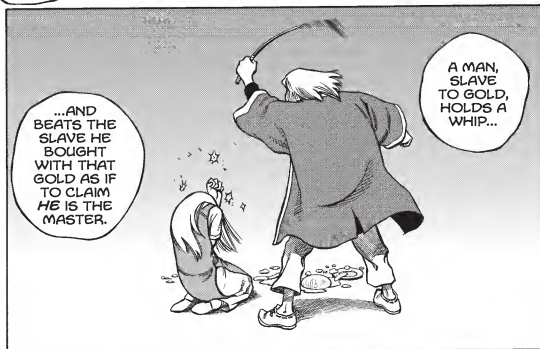


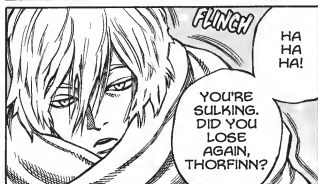






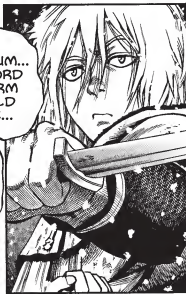






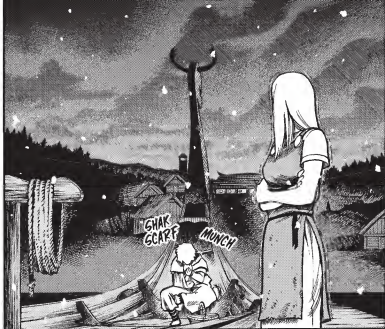


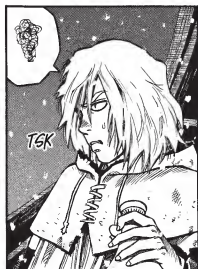




AH...UM...
L-LORD
GORM
TOLD
ME...

...TO
BRING
YOU
FOOD...





IT'S
STRANGE...

OH...
REALLY?

I JUST
THOUGHT
WE
SEEMED
SIMILAR...

IF I WERE
YOU, I'D
KILL GORM
AND RUN!

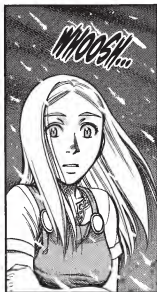
AND I'D
KILL ANY
MAN WHO
FOLLOWED
ME!

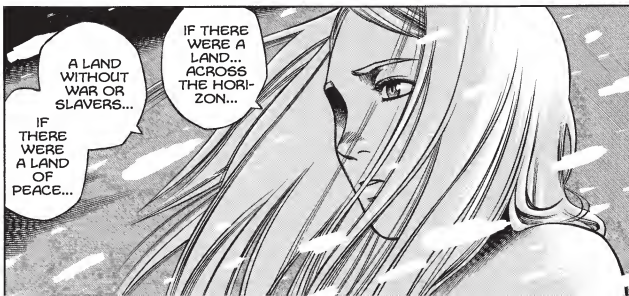
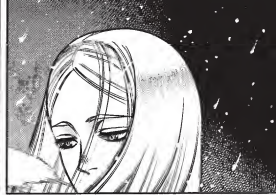
I HAVE
NOTHING IN
COMMON
WITH YOU!
I WOULDN'T
KNOW HOW
A SLAVE
THINKS!



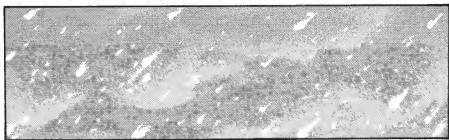
I
COULDN'T
...KILL...

HOW
AWFUL
...

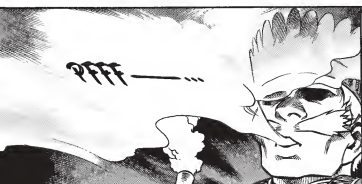
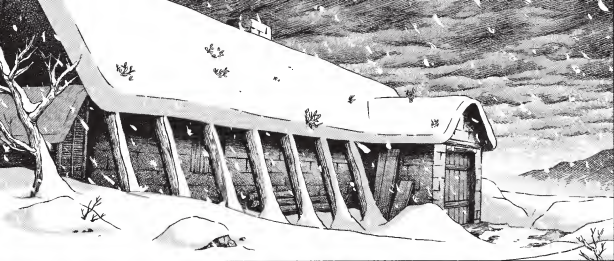


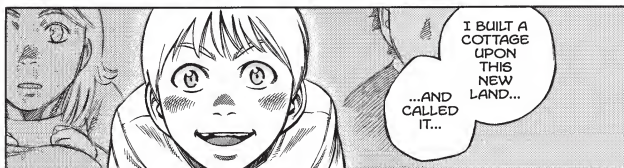


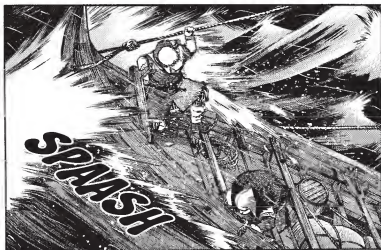




TEN
YEARS
EARLIER

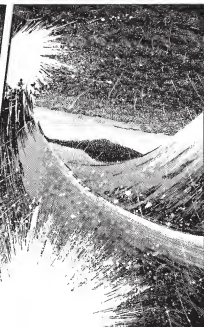


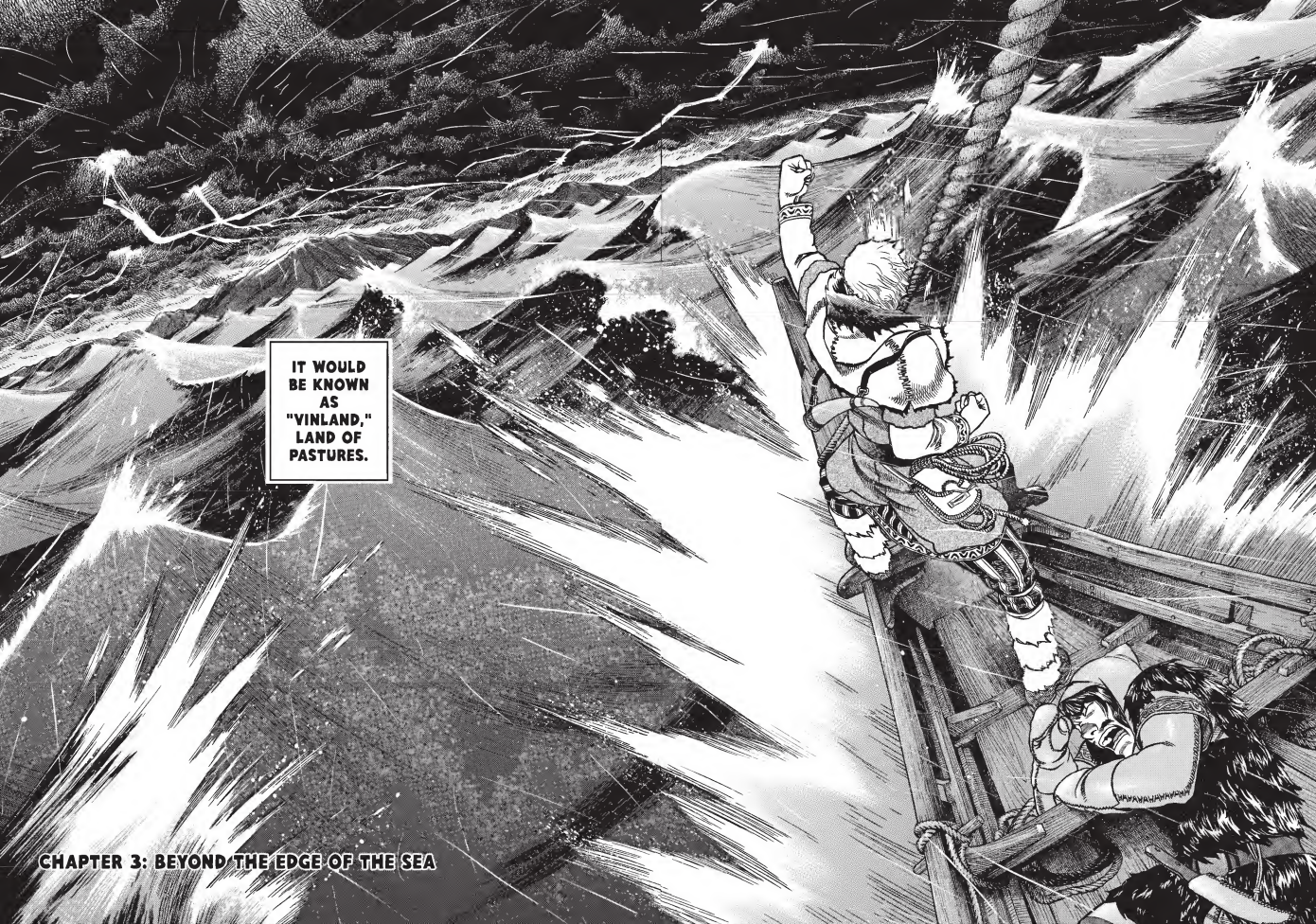




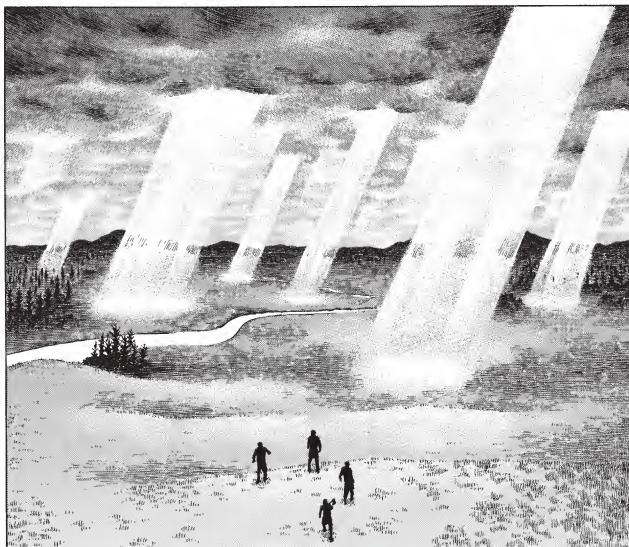
I
STOOD
UPON
THIS
NEW
LAND...

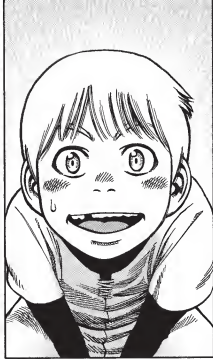
...AND
GAVE
IT A
NAME.





IT WOULD
BE KNOWN
AS
"VINLAND,"
LAND OF
PASTURES.

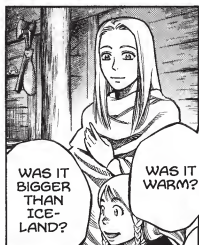






1002 A.D.
ICELAND

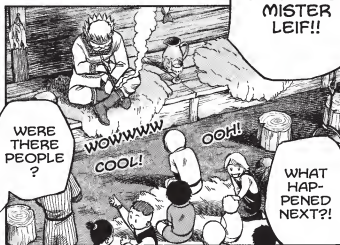
THAT'S
AMAZING,
MISTER
LEIF!!



WAS IT
BIGGER
THAN
ICE-
LAND?

WAS IT
WARM?

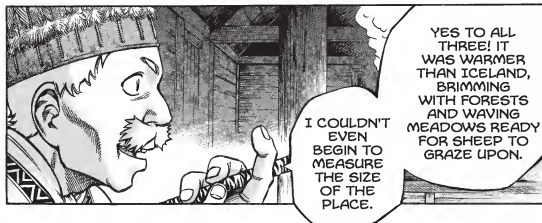
WERE
THERE
PEOPLE
?



WOWWWW
COOL!

OOH!

WHAT
HAP-
PENED
NEXT?!



I COULDN'T
EVEN
BEGIN TO
MEASURE
THE SIZE
OF THE
PLACE.

YES TO ALL
THREE! IT
WAS WARMER
THAN ICELAND,
BRIMMING
WITH FORESTS
AND WAVING
MEADOWS READY
FOR SHEEP TO
GRAZE UPON.



WE EVEN
MET
SKRAELINGS
THERE.



IN FACT,
THIS HEAD-
DRESS AND
PIPE WERE
PERSONAL
GIFTS TO ME
FROM THEIR
CHIEFTAIN.

THE MEN
COULD
NOT GROW
WHISKERS,
SO THEY
FOUND
OURS TO
BE MOST
FASCINAT-
ING.

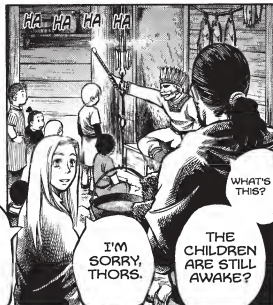
THEY WERE
SHORT OF
STATURE
WITH BLACK
HAIR AND
EYES, BEAR-
ING STONE
SPEARS.

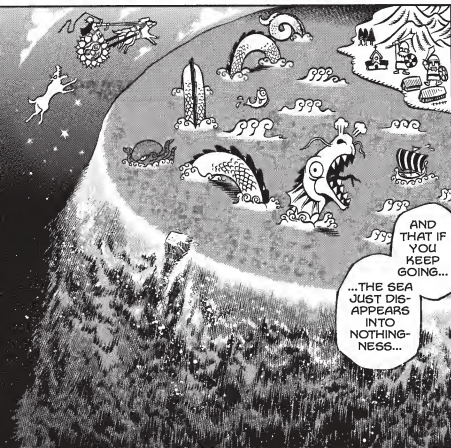
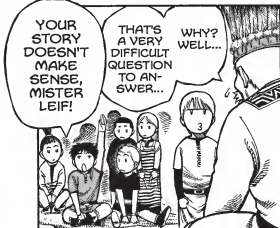
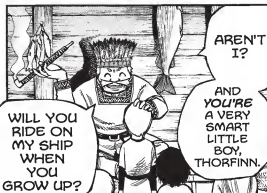


OOOH...

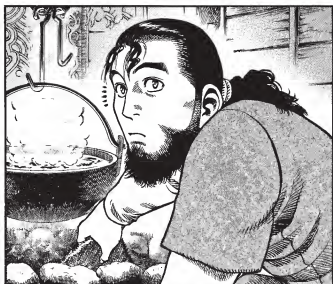
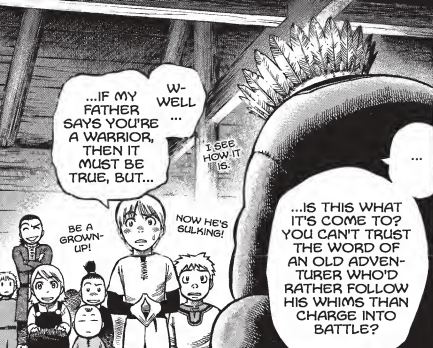


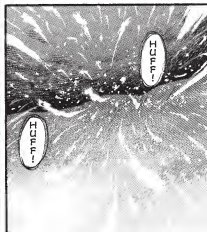
WE
COULDN'T
UNDERSTAND
EACH
OTHER, BUT
WE BECAME
FAST FRIENDS.

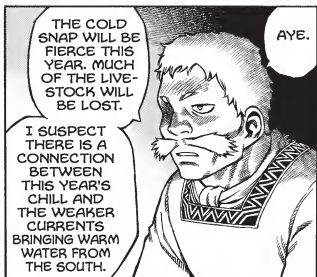




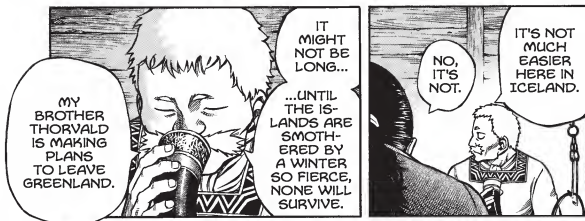










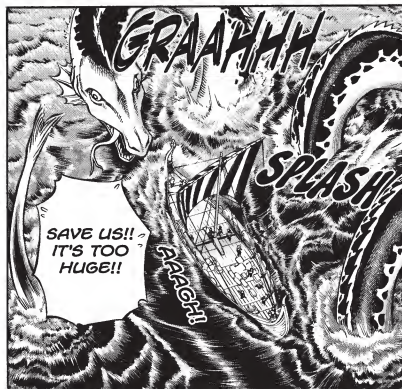




VINLAND
IS JUST
BEYOND
THE HO-
RIZON!!



ONWARD!
FAR TO
THE
WEST!



SAVE US!!
IT'S TOO
HUGE!!

AAAGH!!



CAPTAIN
THORFINN!
JÖRMUN-
GAND'S
AHEAD!!

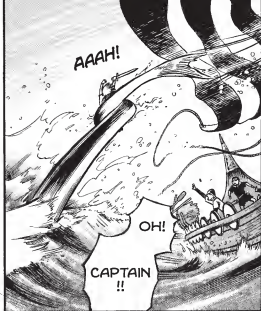
HMM
?!



GR AAAH

DON'T WAIT FOR ME, MEN!

ONWARD, WHILE IT'S DISTRACTED! ONWARD TO VINLAND!!



AAAH!

OH!

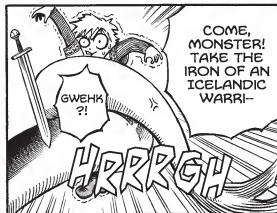
CAPTAIN !!



HMM ?

URGH... I'M CHOK-ING...

GUHH, I'M GONNA DIE...



COME, MONSTER! TAKE THE IRON OF AN ICELANDIC WARRI-

GWEHK ?!

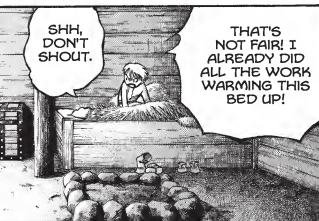
HRRRGH



I'M COLD...

WHAAT? NOOO...

YOU CAN USE MY BED IF YOU WANT. I'M SLEEPING HERE...



SHH, DON'T SHOUT.

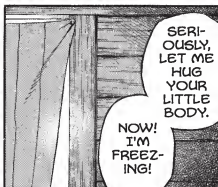
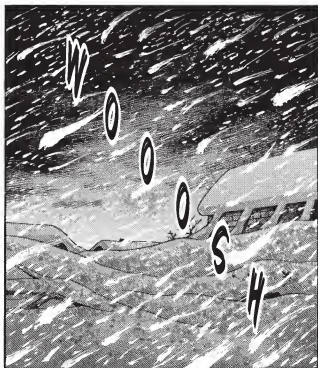
THAT'S NOT FAIR! I ALREADY DID ALL THE WORK WARMING THIS BED UP!

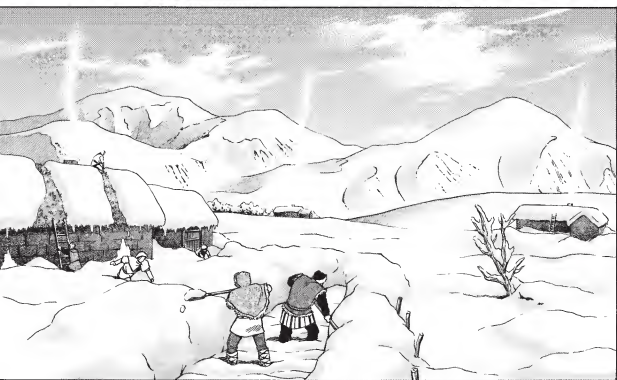


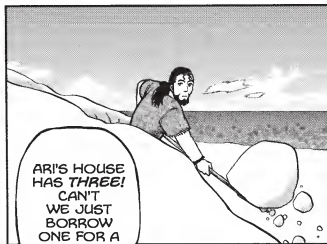
...SIS!

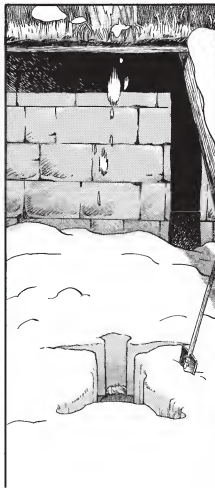
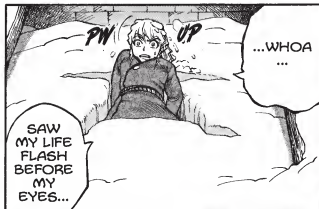
GO TO YOUR OWN BED! YOU'RE SQUISH-ING ME!

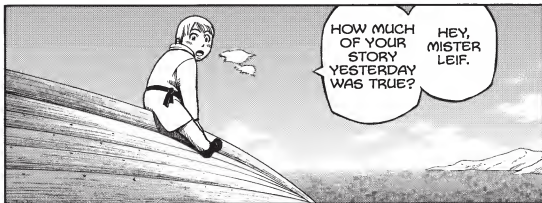
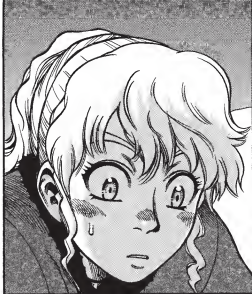
...

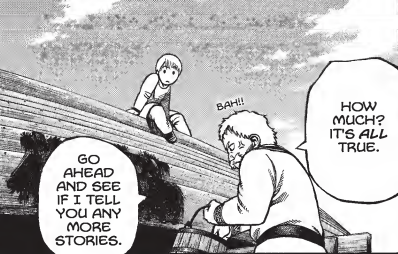


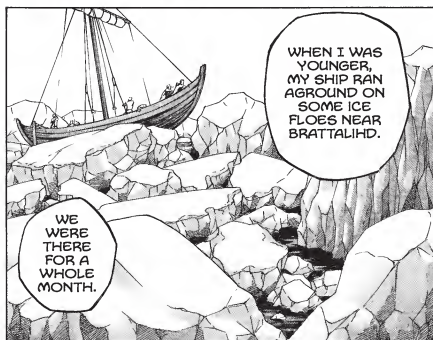


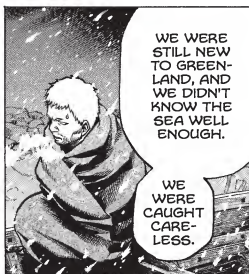


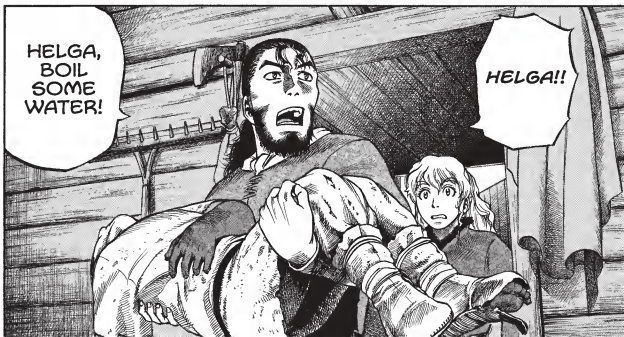
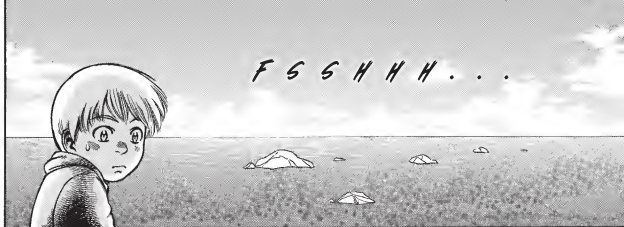










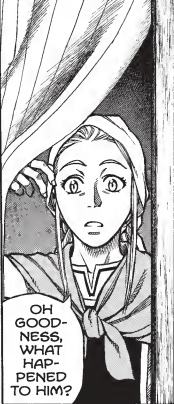




STOKE THE
FIRE, YLVA,
AND BRING
THE FURS
FROM THE
BEDROOM.

HE WAS
BURIED
IN THE
SNOW.

OKAY!



OH
GOOD-
NESS,
WHAT
HAP-
PENED
TO HIM?

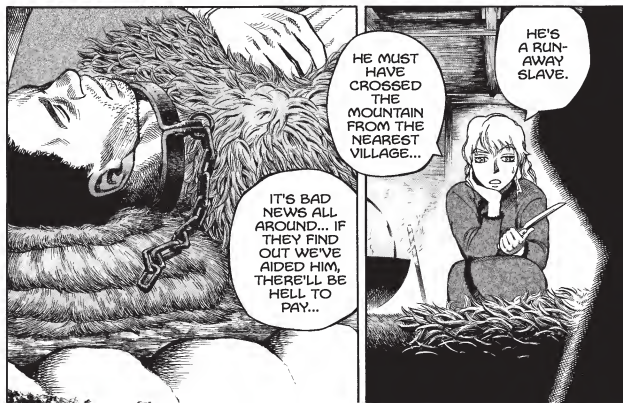
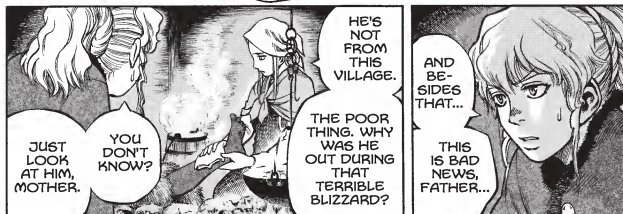
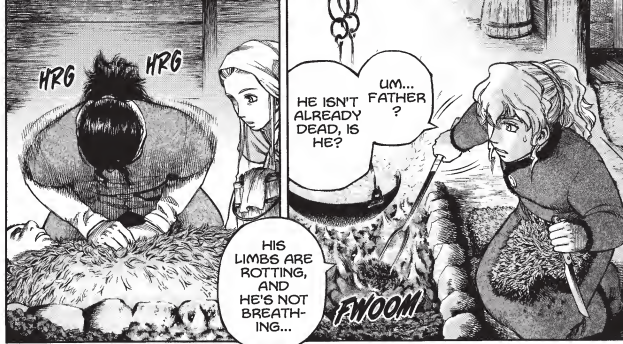


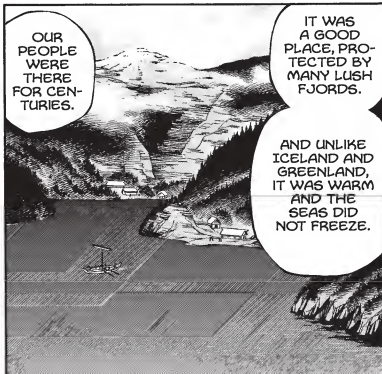
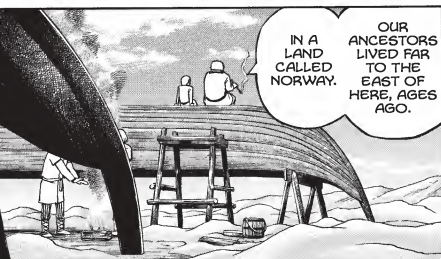
COVER
HIS
BODY
WITH
THE
FURS.

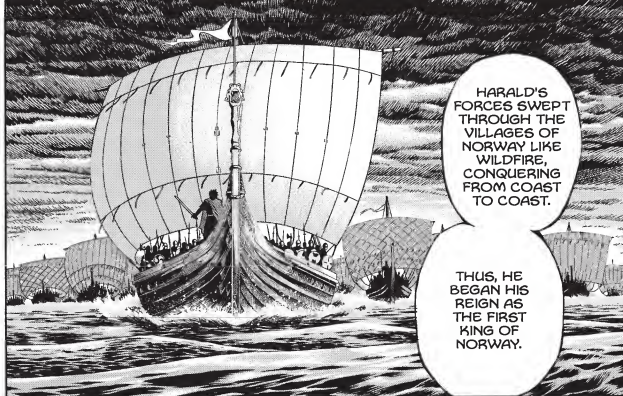
OOH,
OUCH...

WHAT'S
THAT?
WHIP
MARKS?









HARALD'S
FORCES SWEEP
THROUGH THE
VILLAGES OF
NORWAY LIKE
WILDFIRE,
CONQUERING
FROM COAST
TO COAST.

THUS, HE
BEGAN HIS
REIGN AS
THE FIRST
KING OF
NORWAY.



...OR
LEAVE
NORWAY
FOREVER...

KNEEL
AND
SERVE
THE
KING...

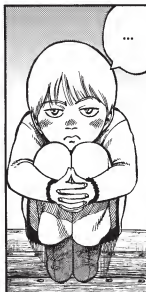
AND THE
NORWEGIAN
PEOPLE
WERE
FACED WITH
A HARD
CHOICE.

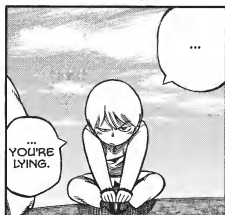
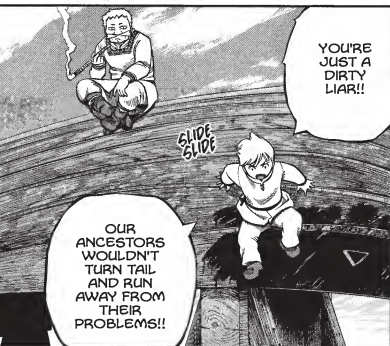
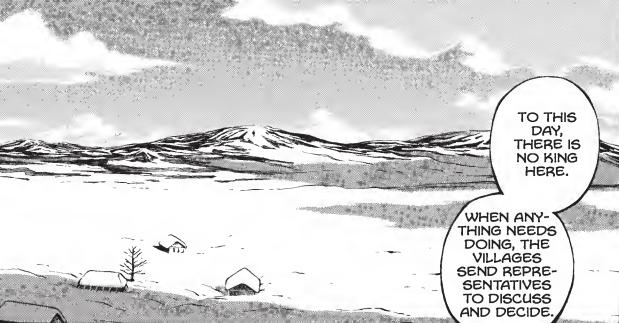


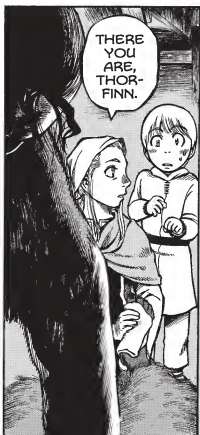
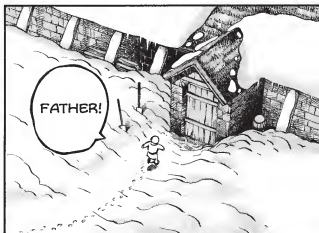
THEY SET
OUT ACROSS
THE SEA,
FAR TO THE
WEST, AWAY
FROM THE
KING'S
GRASP.

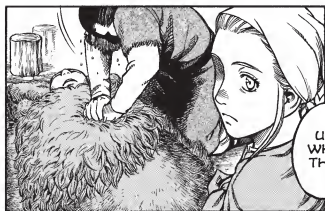
THUS
THEY
LANDED
HERE ON
ICELAND.

MANY
PEOPLE DID
NOT TAKE TO
THE HEAVY
HAND OF THE
KING, AND
CHOSE TO
LEAVE THEIR
HOMES.

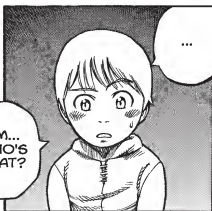




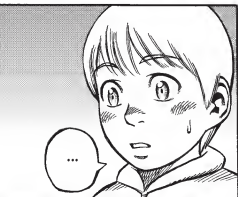




UM...
WHO'S
THAT?



...



...



HE
ESCAPED
AND
CAME
HERE.



SOME-
ONE'S
SLAVE.



!!

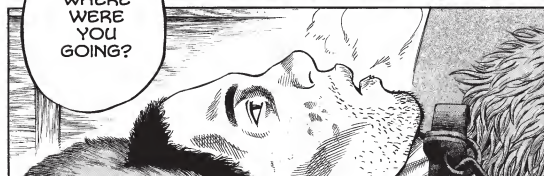
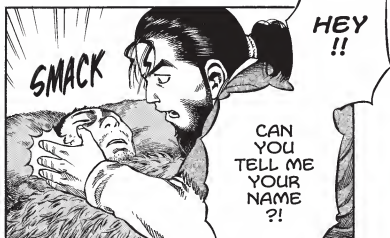
W-WAIT,
HE'S
COMING
BACK
TO
LIFE?!

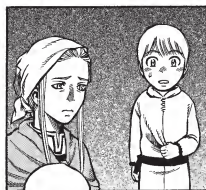
NO WAY!!!

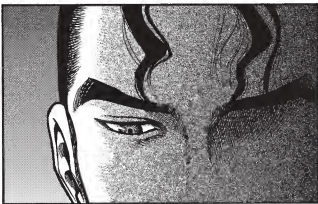
KOFF-KOFF

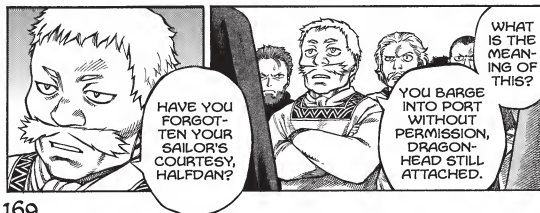
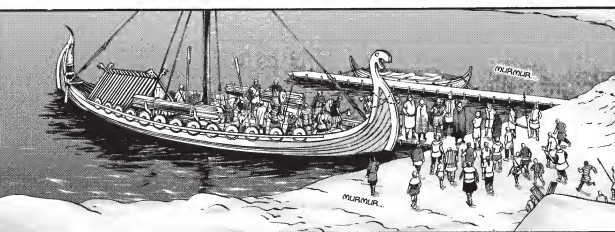


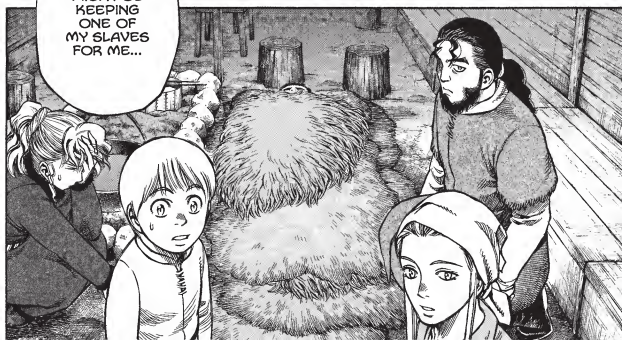
GAKH











CHAPTER 4: UNBREAKABLE CHAINS





THEY
LANDED
WITHOUT
PERMISSION,
GOING ON
ABOUT
A SLAVE
OR SOME
NONSENSE!

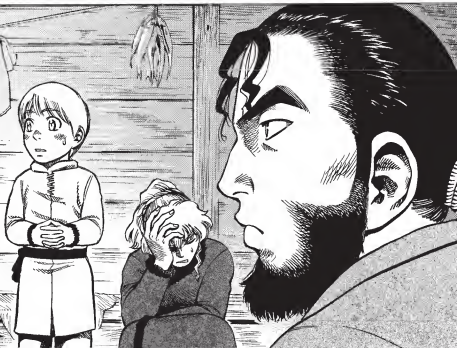


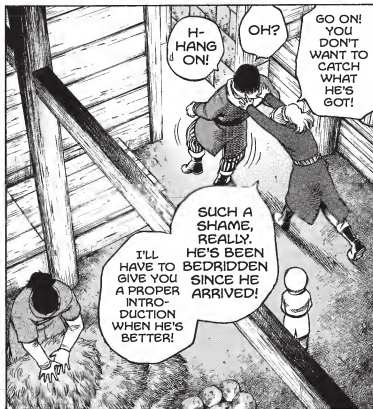
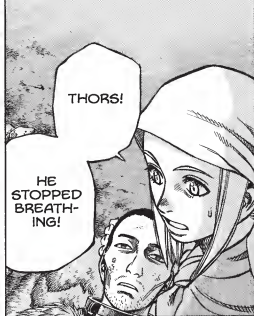
IT'S
HALFDAN
AND HIS
HENCHMEN.

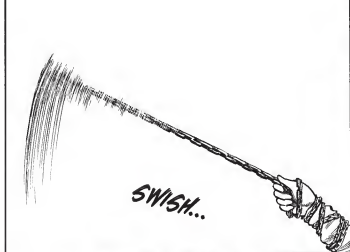
OVER
THIRTY
MARCHING
INTO TOWN!!

LEIF'S OUT
THERE TRYING
TO SMOOTH
THINGS OVER...
BUT IT LOOKS
AS THOUGH THE
YOUNGER MEN
MIGHT BUTT
HEADS AT ANY
MOMENT.

WE
NEED
YOU
NOW,
THORS!



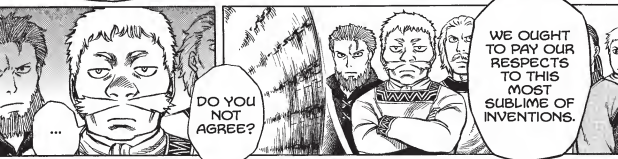






ONLY A
CHAIN OF
HARD IRON
AROUND
THE NECK
CAN TURN A
MAN INTO
SOMETHING
BETTER.

NOT
GOLD,
NOT
SILVER.
COLD
IRON
CHAINS.



DO YOU
NOT
AGREE?

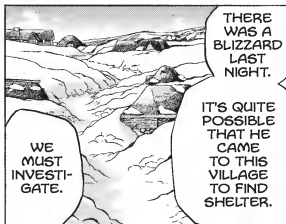
WE OUGHT
TO PAY OUR
RESPECTS
TO THIS
MOST
SUBLIME OF
INVENTIONS.



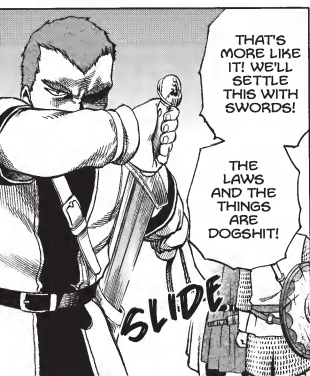
ONE OF
MY SLAVES
CUT HIS
CHAINS AND
ESCAPED
LAST NIGHT.

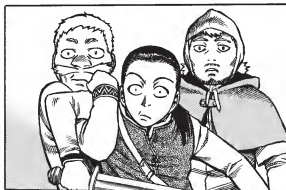
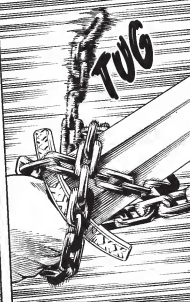
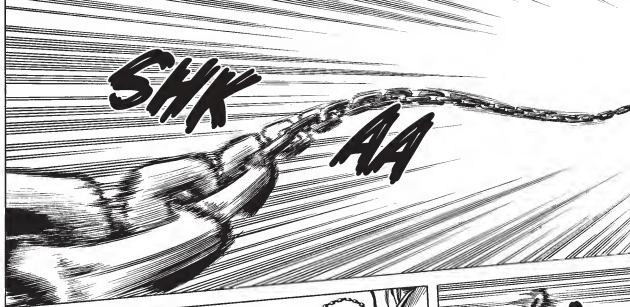
DO YOU
HAVE
ANY
IDEAS?

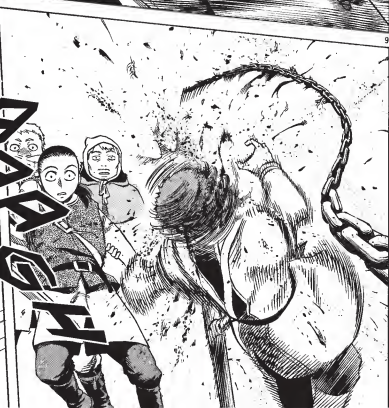
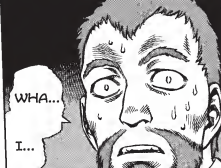


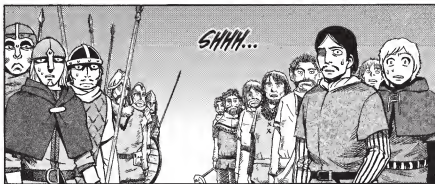
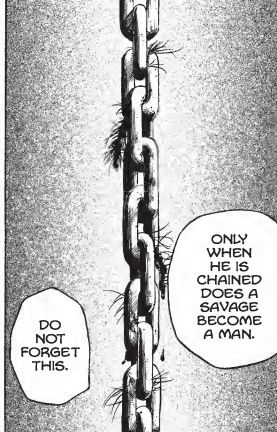


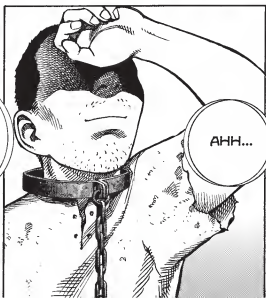
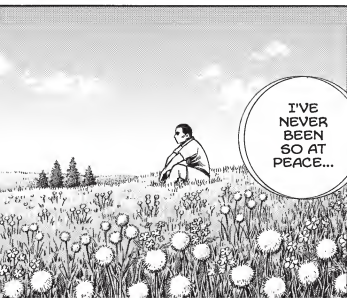
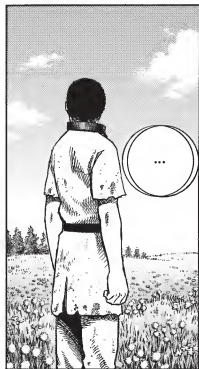
*A "THING" IS A VIKING ASSEMBLY.

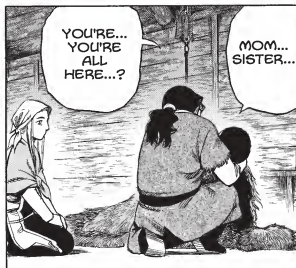
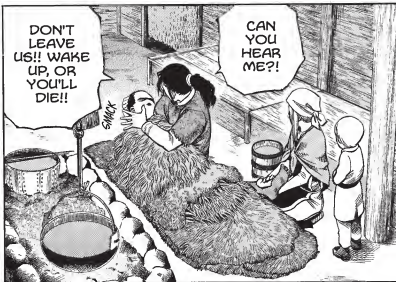
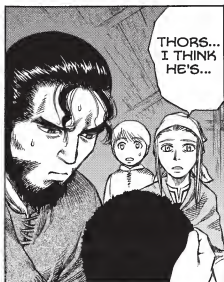








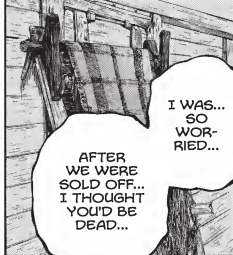






BUT...
WHERE IS
THIS...?

WHY
AM I
HERE...?



I WAS...
SO
WOR-
RIED...

AFTER
WE WERE
SOLD OFF...
I THOUGHT
YOU'D BE
DEAD...



...THERE IS
A PLACE...
CALLED
VINLAND.

FAR TO
THE
WEST...
...ACROSS
THE
SEA...



...
CAN
YOU
HEAR
ME?

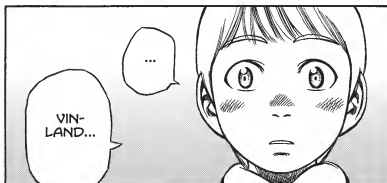


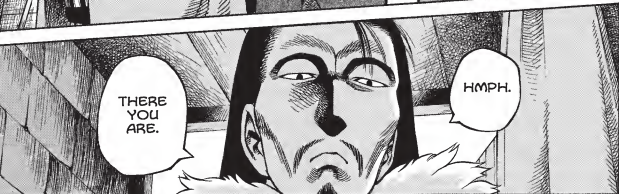
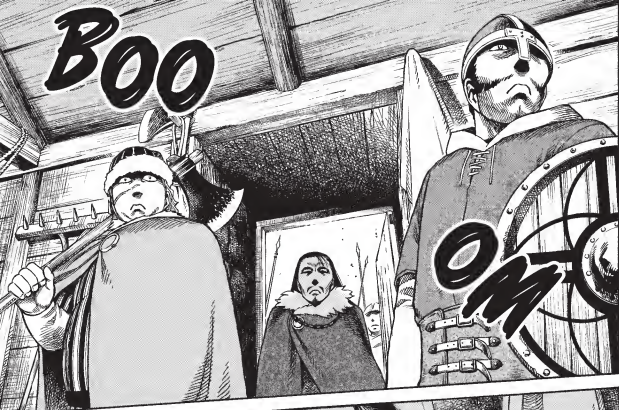
NO ONE
CAN
REACH
YOU
THERE.

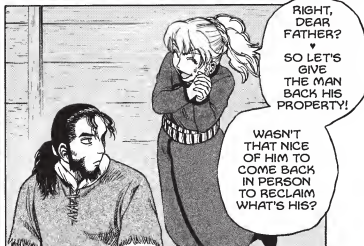
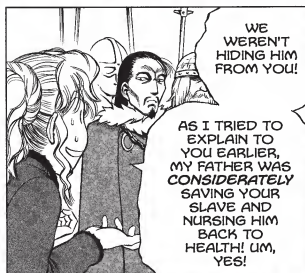
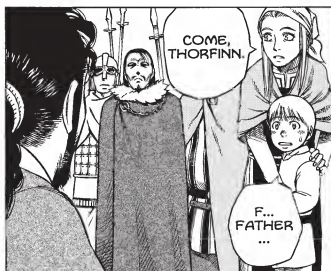
...FAR
FROM
SLAVERY
AND THE
FIRES OF
WAR.

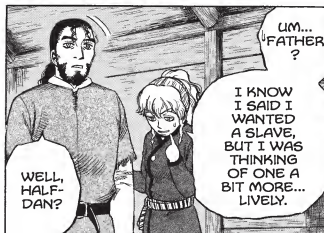
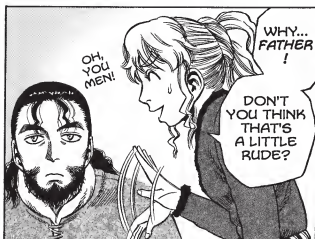
IT IS
WARM
AND
FERTILE
...



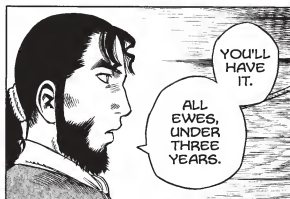


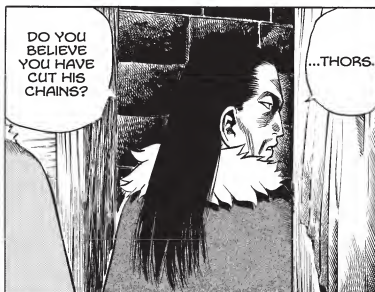
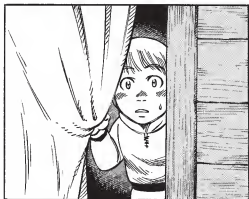


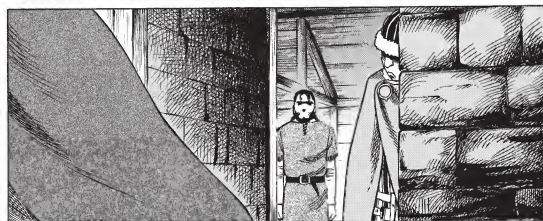
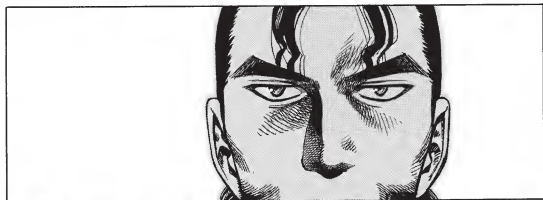


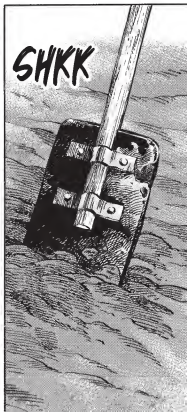
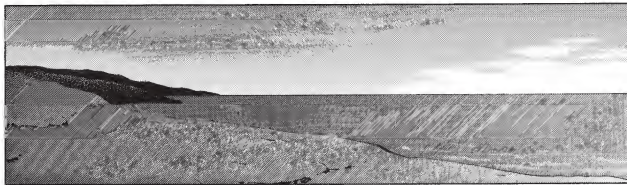
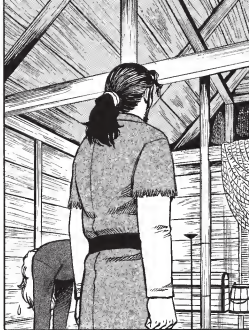
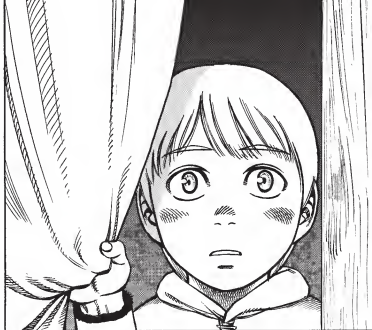


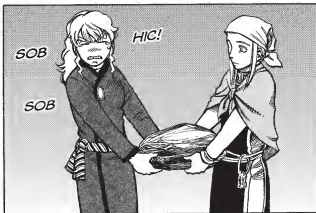
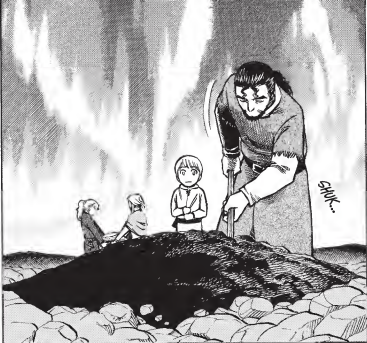


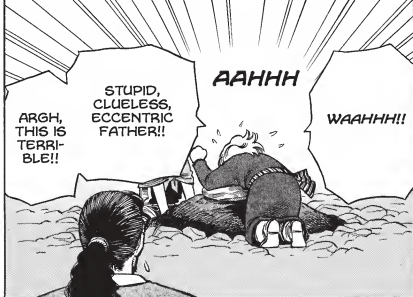


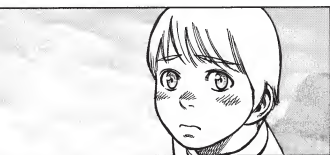
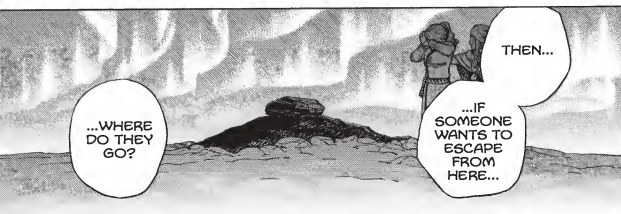
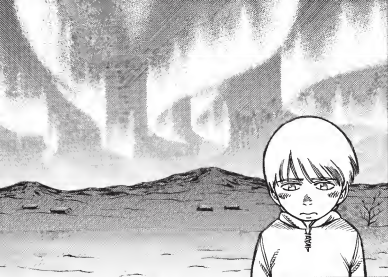








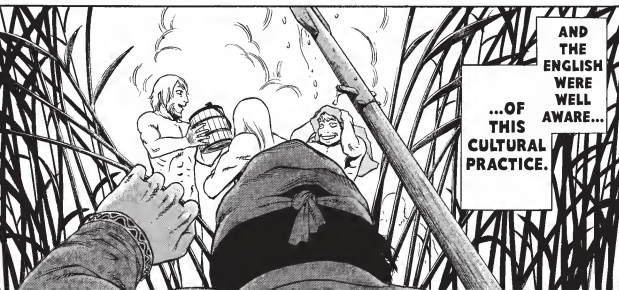
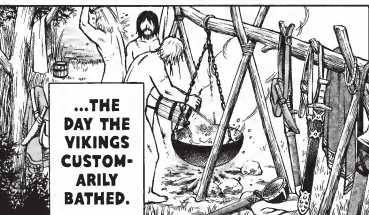
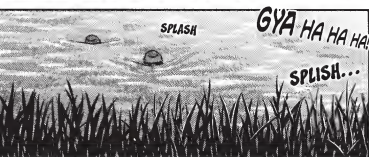






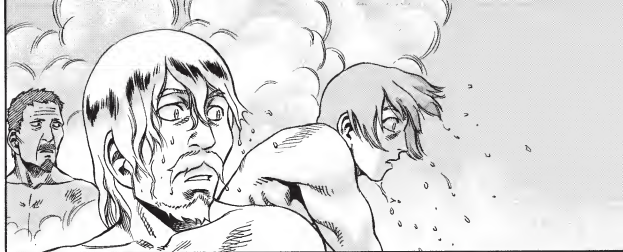


**NOVEMBER
13TH,
1002 A.D.**



**AND
THE
ENGLISH
WERE
WELL
AWARE...**

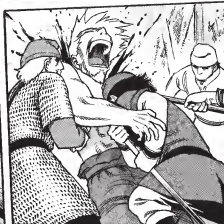
**...OF
THIS
CULTURAL
PRACTICE.**

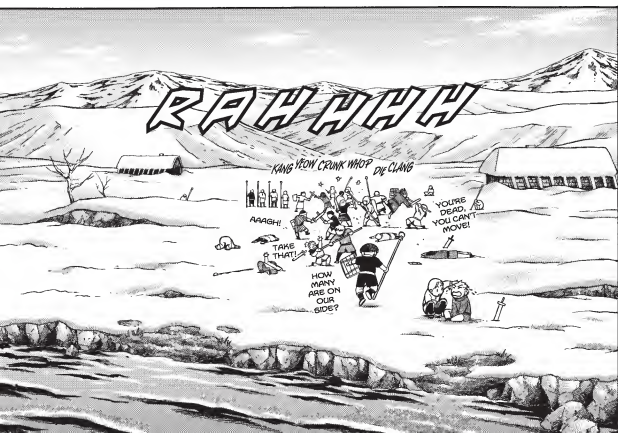
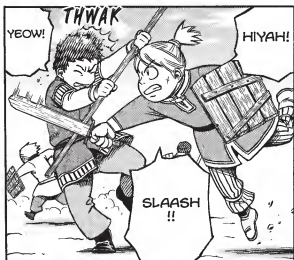


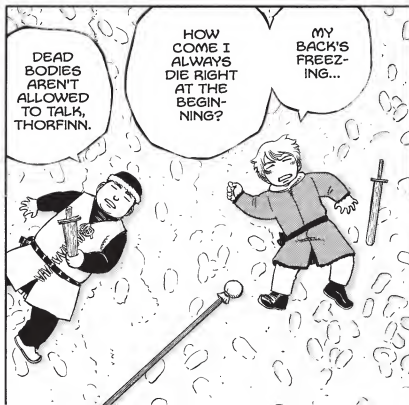
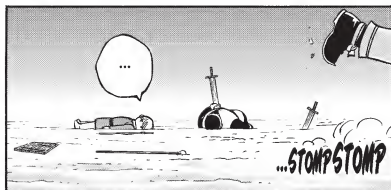
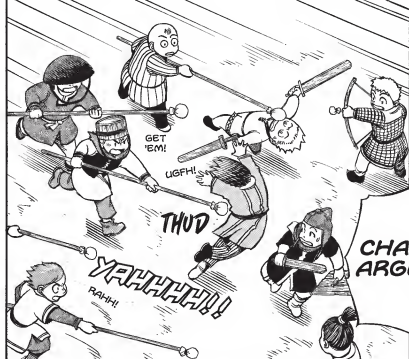
CHAPTER 5: TROLL

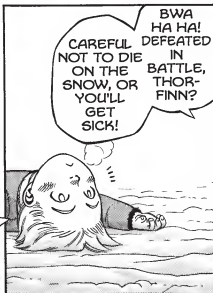
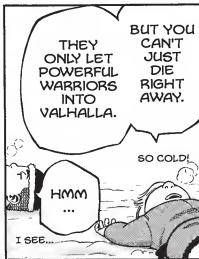
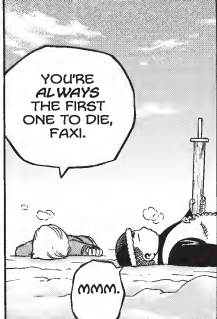
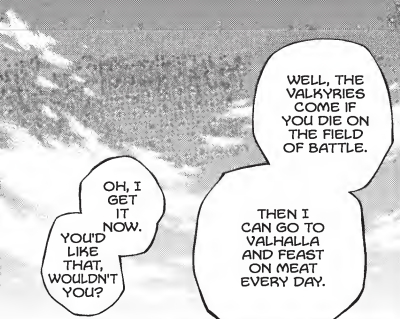
**NORTHERN
ENGLAND
EARLDOM OF
NORTHUMBRIA
VIKING
SETTLEMENT**

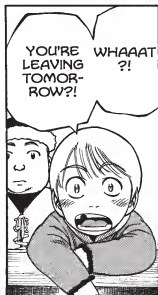


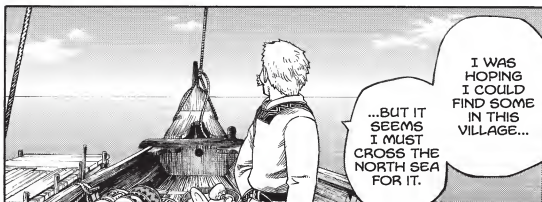
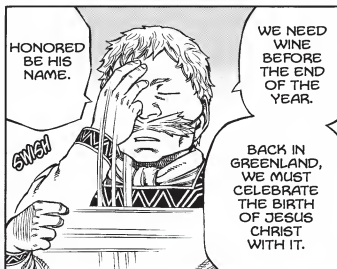


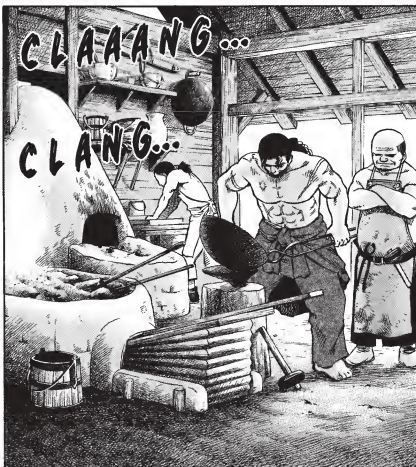
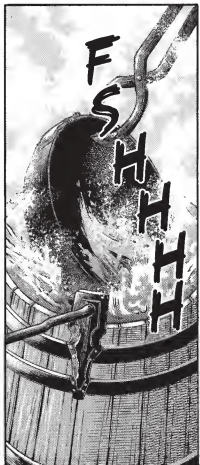
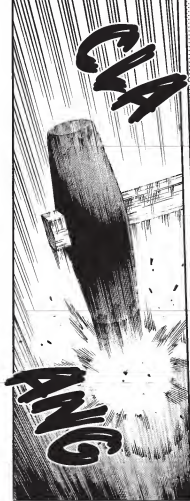




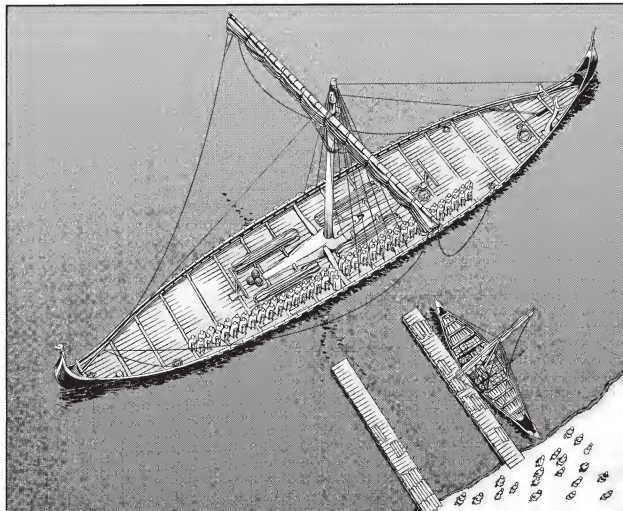
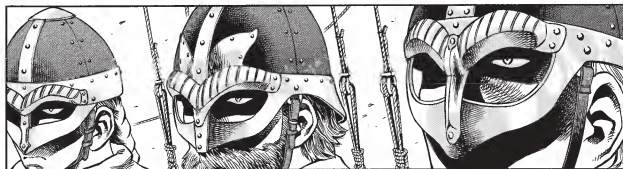
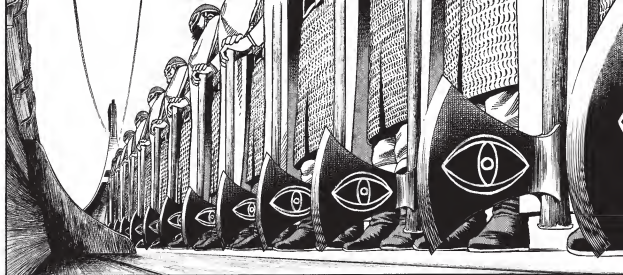


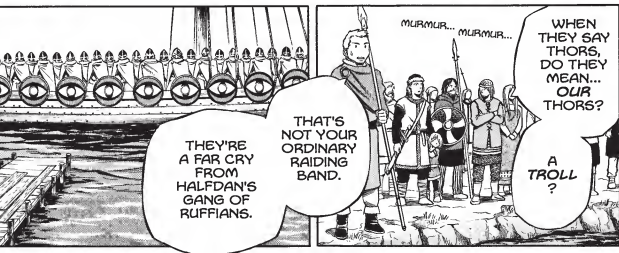
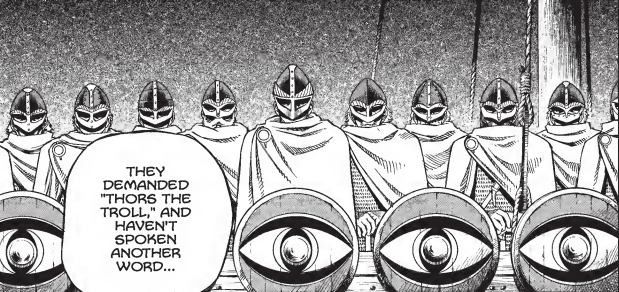
















THEY WHOA.
BOWED
TO
THORS...

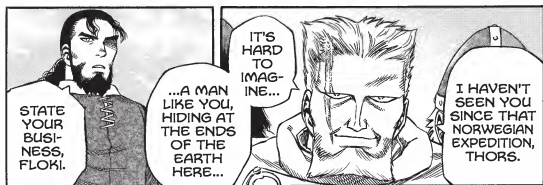
MURMUR



I NEVER
THOUGHT
YOU'D
FOLLOW
ME ALL THE
WAY TO
ICELAND...

...FLOKI.

...

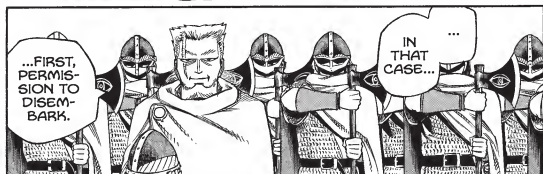


STATE
YOUR
BUSI-
NESS,
FLOKI.

...A MAN
LIKE YOU,
HIDING AT
THE ENDS
OF THE
EARTH
HERE...

IT'S
HARD
TO
IMAG-
INE...

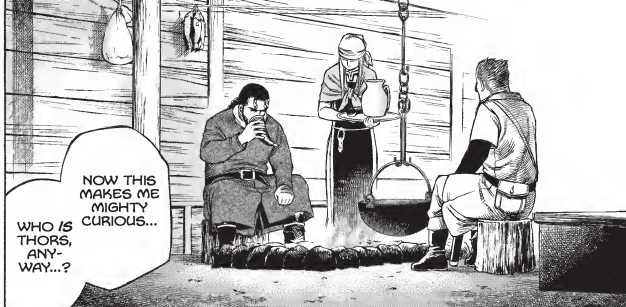
I HAVEN'T
SEEN YOU
SINCE THAT
NORWEGIAN
EXPEDITION,
THORS.



...FIRST,
PERMIS-
SION TO
DISEM-
BARK.

IN
THAT
CASE...

...



NOW THIS
MAKES ME
MIGHTY
CURIOUS...
WHO IS
THORS,
ANY-
WAY...?



HEY!
I
WANNA
SEE!

HE'S
NEVER
BEEN ONE
TO TALK
ABOUT
HIMSELF,
AFTER ALL.



NOT
ME...

HE SAID
SOMETHING
ABOUT
"WARRIORS OF
JOM." ANYONE
KNOW WHAT
THAT IS?



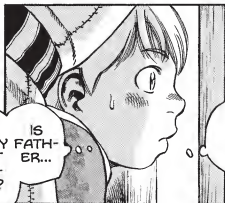
I ALWAYS
HEARD
HE'D SEEN
HIS SHARE
OF BATTLE
IN HIS
YOUTH...

HE MUST
HAVE
BEEN
QUITE
THE
HERO.

QUIET
DOWN,
ARI.

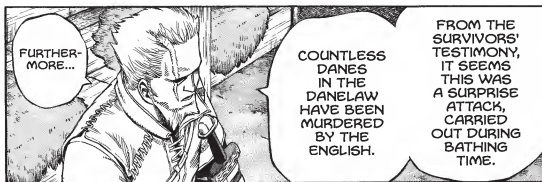


...ANGRY
ABOUT
SOME-
THING?



IS
FATH-
ER...

...

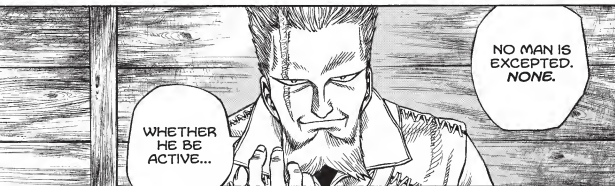






CHIEF SIG-
VALDI HAS
ORDERED
ALL
FORCES...

...TO
RETURN TO
JOMSBORG
FOR FURTHER
INSTRUCTIONS.

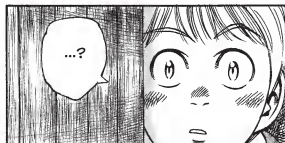


WHETHER
HE BE
ACTIVE...

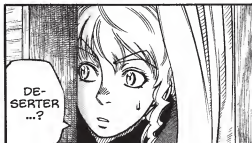
NO MAN IS
EXCEPTED.
NONE.



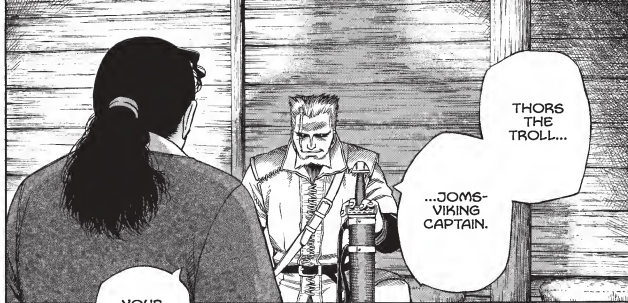
...OR
DESERTER...



...?



DE-
SERTER
...?



THORS
THE
TROLL...

...JOMS-
VIKING
CAPTAIN.

YOUR
PARTICIPA-
TION IS
REQUIRED
...

...IN
THIS
COMING
BATTLE.



THORFINN'S TRAVELS



THORFINN'S HOME VILLAGE

Halfdan's village is a peaceful land beyond the mountains and far from the fires of war.



THORFINN



THORS



HALFDAN



HOME TOWN OF A LOCAL FRANKISH CLAN

A large, well-protected fortress on the shores of a lake. General Jabbathe led an army of the same Frank tribe against the town.



FORTRESS ARMY COMMANDER



GENERAL JABBATHE



FEUDAL LORD GORM'S VILLAGE

Askeladd's home base during winter. Ordinarily, Vikings tend to fields when they are not out raiding, but Askeladd's group are complete mercenaries and do nothing but fight for a living.



ASKELADD



GORM

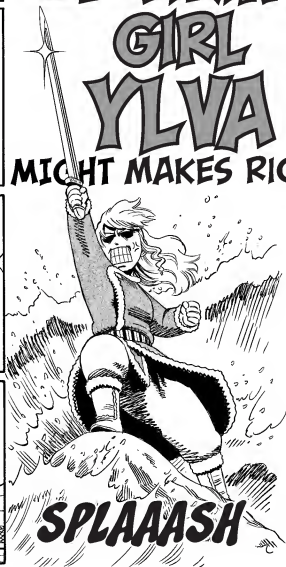
MATH TIME



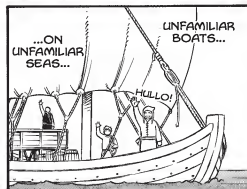
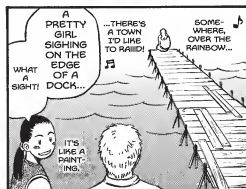
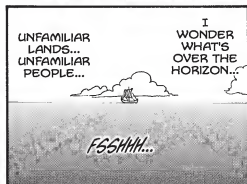
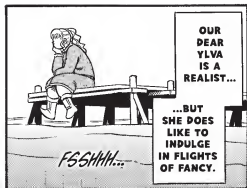
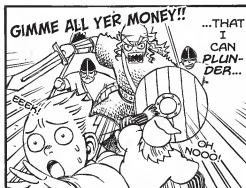
HEROIC EXPLOITS OF VIKING GIRL YLVA

BY:
MAKOTO YUKIMURA

MIGHT MAKES RIGHT!!



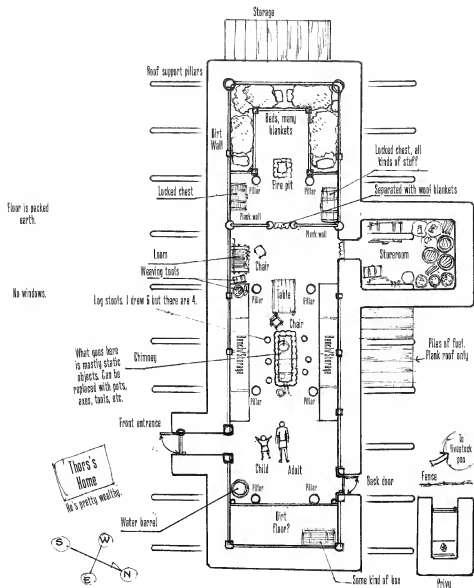
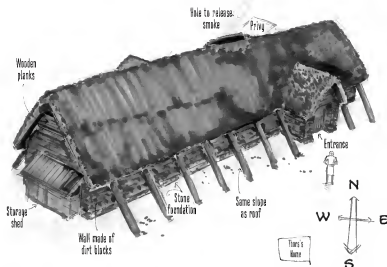
I'M A VIKING, AFTER ALL



I HAVE A NEWFOUND RESPECT FOR FOUR-PANEL ARTISTS... ♪

**SUPPLEMENTAL
DESIGNS**

THOR'S HOME



AFTERWORD

We don't truly know the full etymology of the name "viking." It's said the base of the word is "vik," which means inlet. They used inlets as natural ports; building villages within them; raising sheep and pigs; cultivating small amounts of land; fashioning tools; eating barley, herrings, whales and seals; drinking beer; crying; laughing; and falling in love. Their piratical image tends to precede them, but I would like to continue studying them and portraying them in various other ways.

**MAKOTO
YUKIMURA**

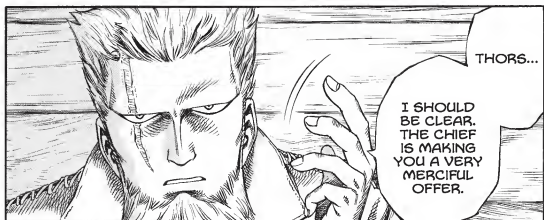
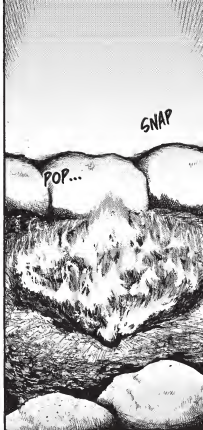


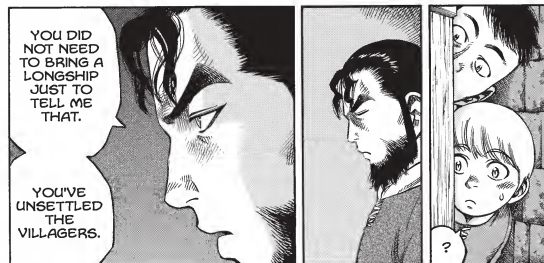
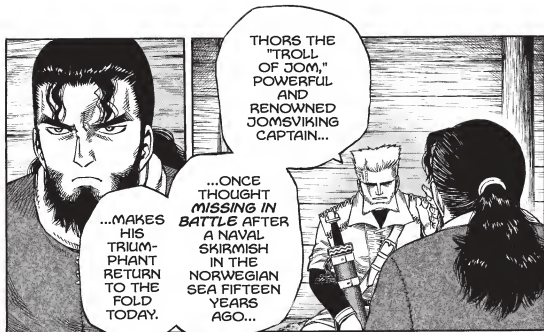
**VINLAND
SAGA**

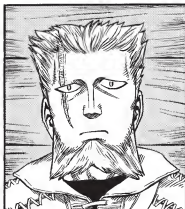


CHAPTER 6: MESSENGER FROM THE BATTLEFIELD









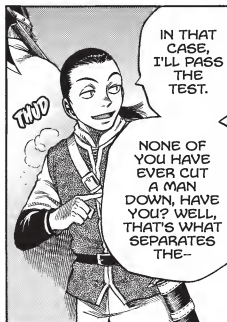
RAAAHHH

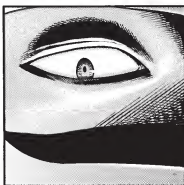
HE SAID
WE'RE
GOING TO
INVADE
ENGLAND!!

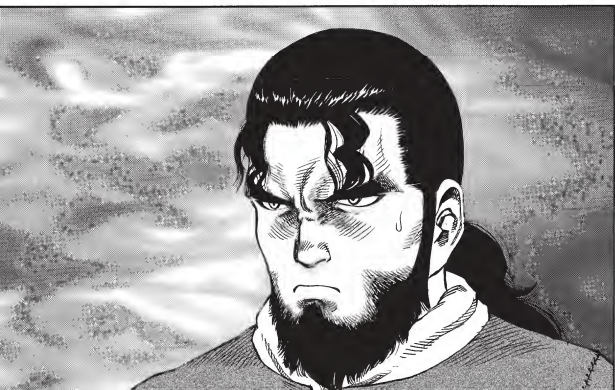
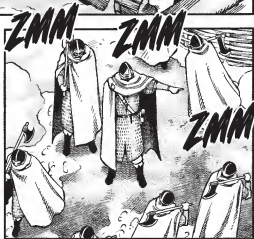
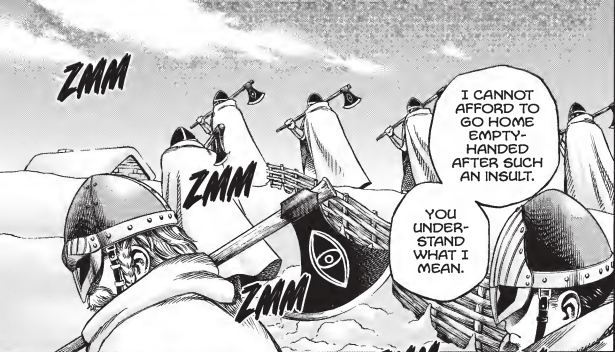
DID YOU
HEAR
THAT?!
BRILLIANT!!
A REAL
BATTLE!!

WHERE'S
ENGLAND?

I'VE
NEVER
BEEN IN
A BATTLE
BEFORE!!







A COMPANY
OF WARRIORS
BASED
OUT OF
JOMSBORG, A
PORT FAR TO
THE EAST, IN
WENDLAND.

THE
JOMSVIKINGS.

DID YOU
KNOW
ABOUT
THIS,
THORFINN?

SO IT
TURNS
OUT
THORS
WAS
ONCE A
JOMSVIKING.

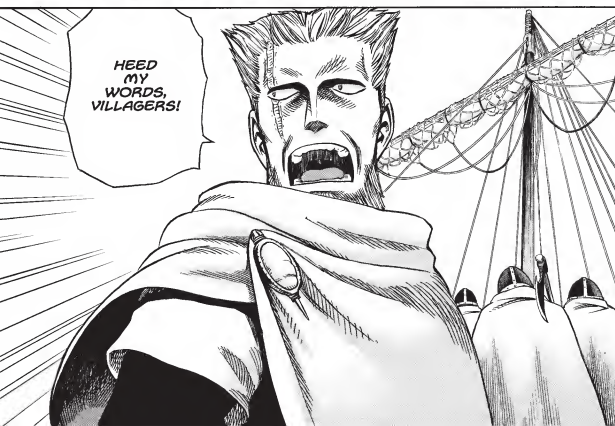
NO.

SO STRONG,
IN FACT, THE
KING OF
WENDLAND
IS UNABLE
TO LEVY ANY
TAXES UPON
THEM.

THEY
PRIDE
THEMSELVES
ON BEING
THE MIGHT-
IEST MEN IN
THE NORTH
SEA.

ARE
THEY
STRONG
?

VERY.





I AM
CHARGED
WITH
RECRUITING
THE HERO
THORS
SNORRESON
INTO OUR
BAND!

I AM
FLOKI
OF THE
JOMS-
VIKINGS!



THORS HAS
GRACIOUSLY
HEEDED
OUR CALL,
AND WILL BE
PROVIDING A
LONGSHIP OF
HIS OWN!

OOOHH



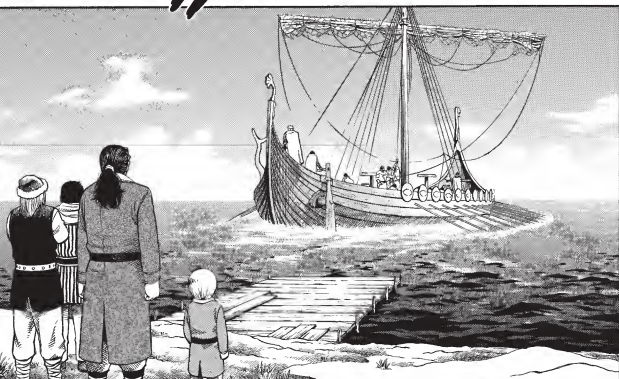
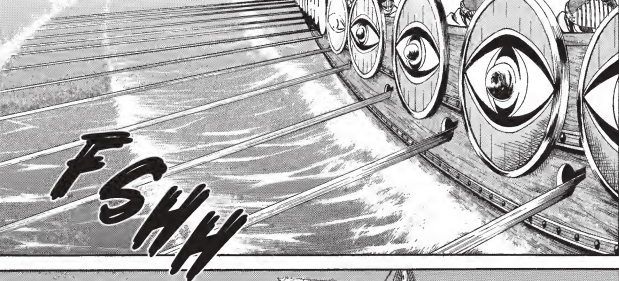
OOOHH

MURMUR

HERO
...



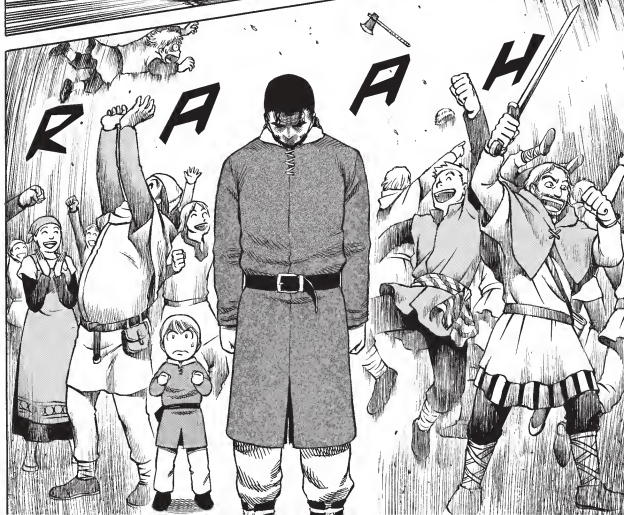
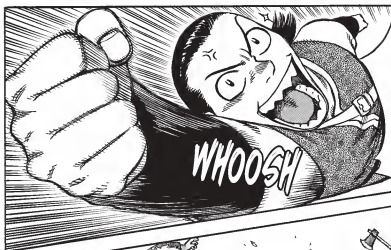
ANY WHO
WOULD
DARE MAY
TRAVEL TO
JOMSBORG
WITH
THORS!



IIIIIIIIIT'S...



...WAR!!



IT'S EVERY
MAN'S
CALLING TO
DIE ON THE
FIELD OF
BATTLE!

I'M
GONNA
KILL ME
SOME
ENGLISH-
MEN!!



HAHAHA!

HOW
MANY
DECADES
HAS IT
BEEN...?

DON'T
TELL ME
YOU'RE
GOING,
GRAND-
FATHER!!

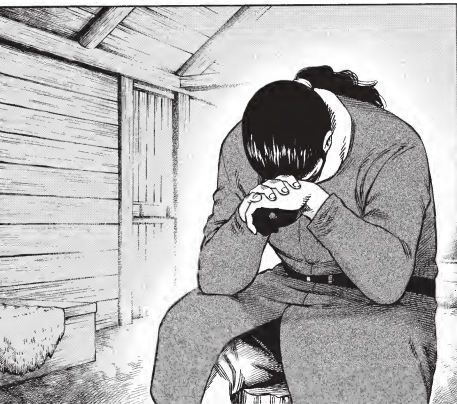
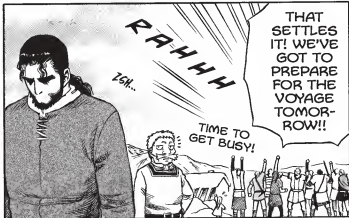


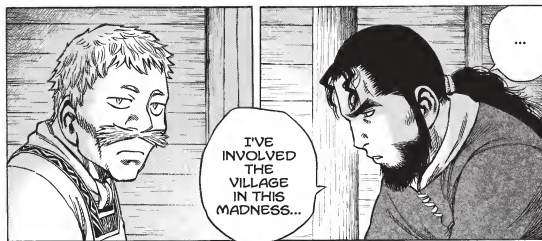
RAHHH

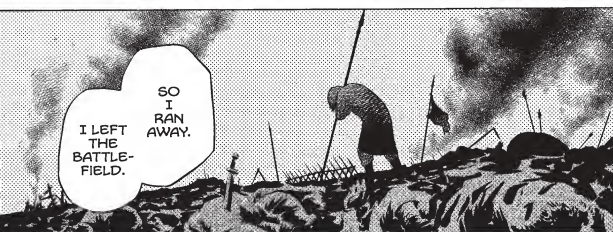
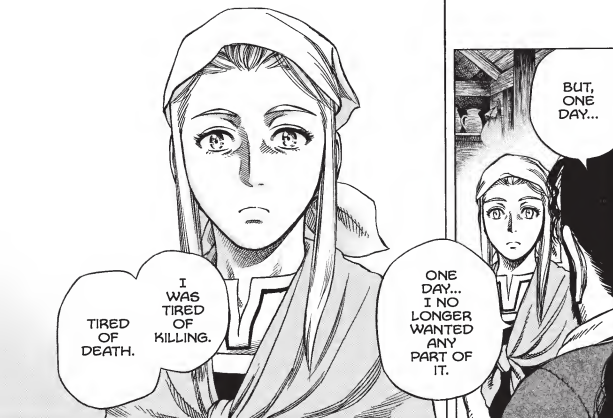
26k...

THAT
SETTLES
IT! WE'VE
GOT TO
PREPARE
FOR THE
VOYAGE
TOMOR-
ROW!!

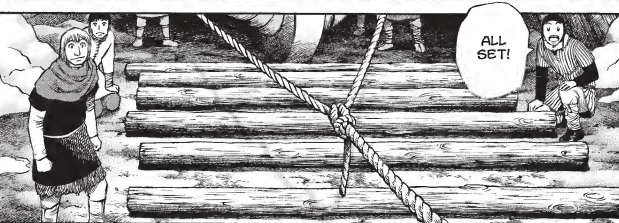
TIME TO
GET BUSY!

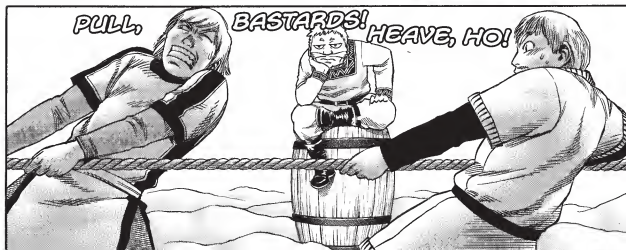
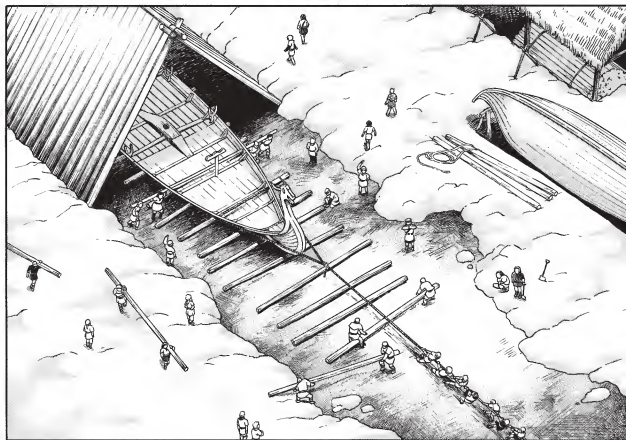
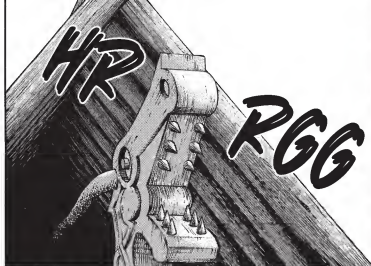


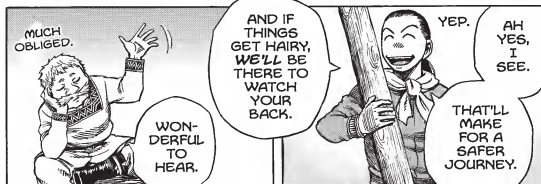


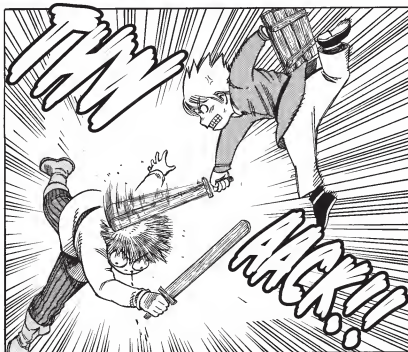
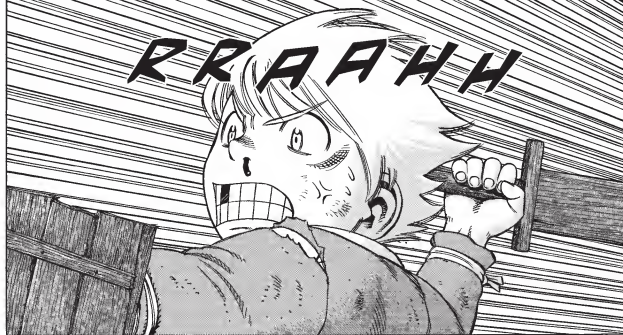


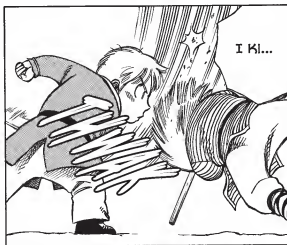
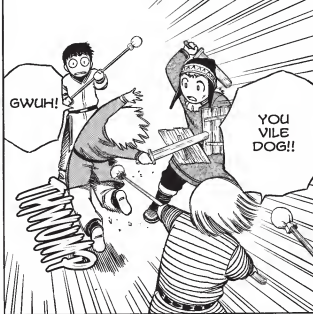
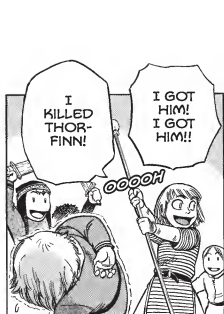




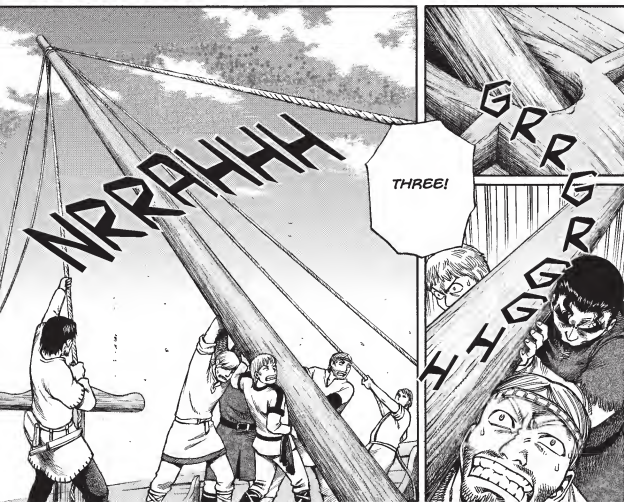


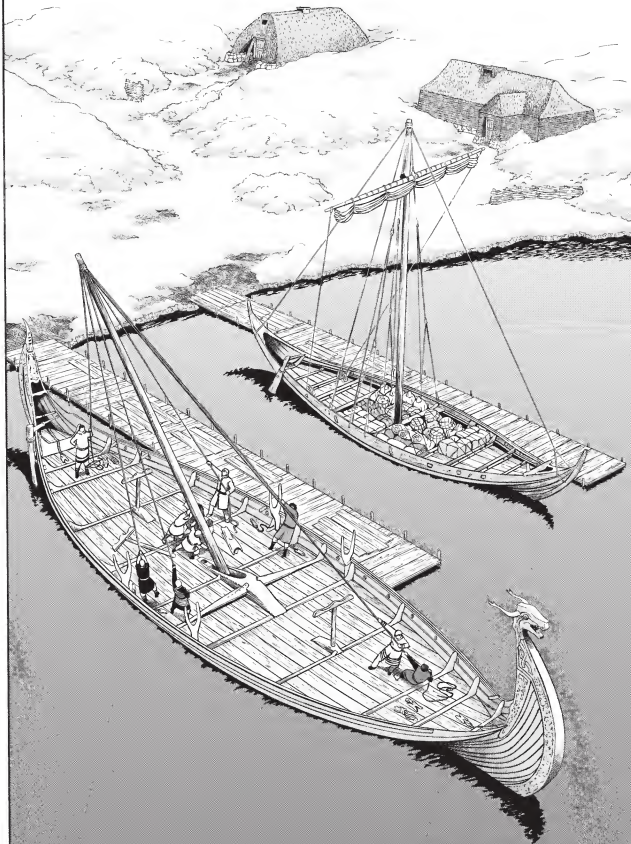


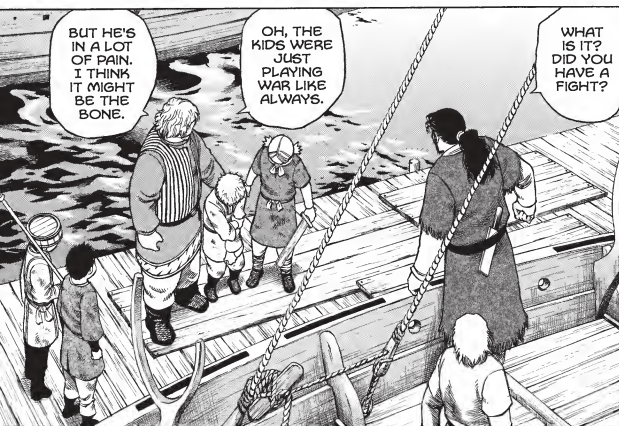
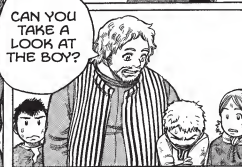
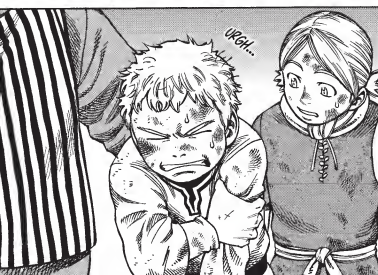
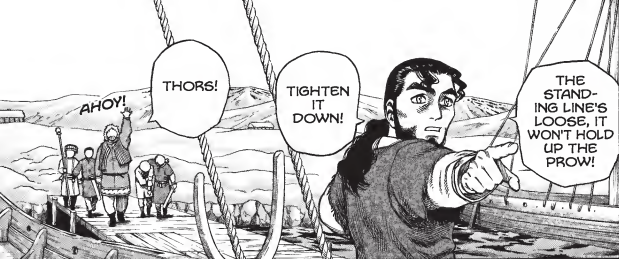




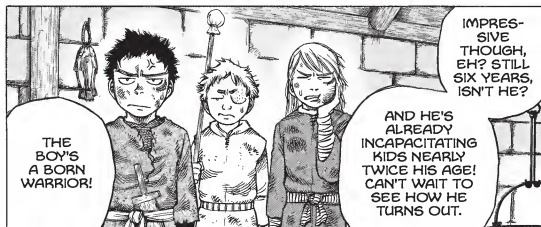
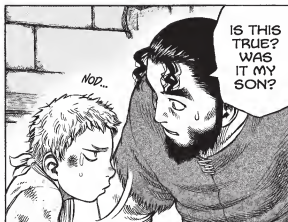


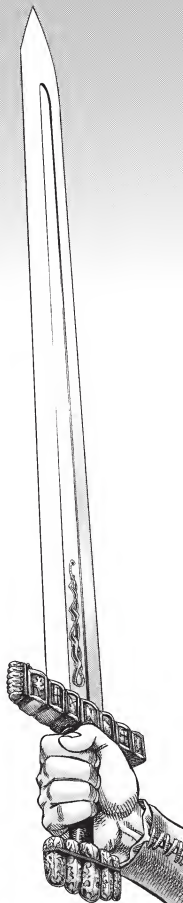


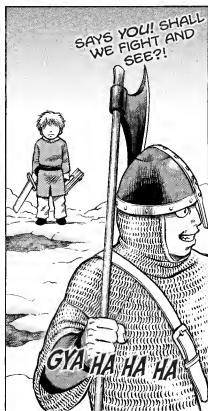
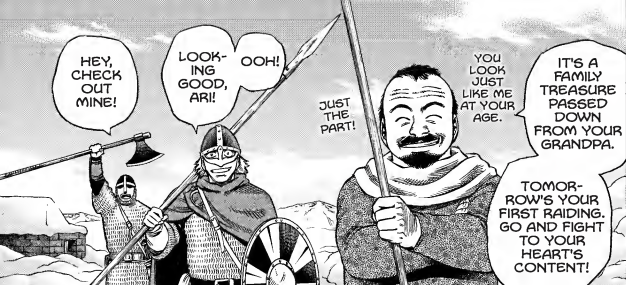


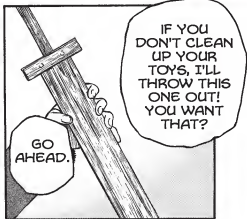
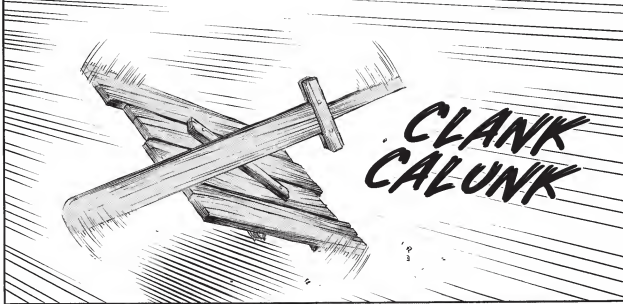




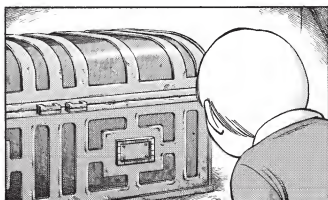
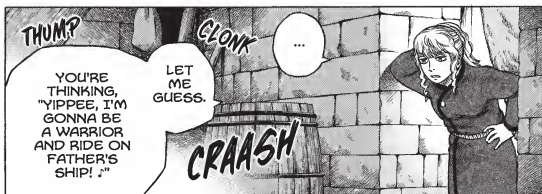






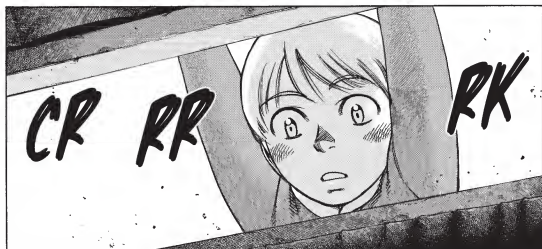
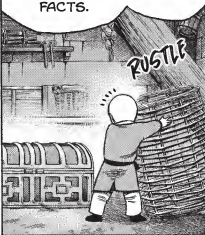
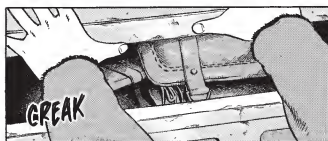


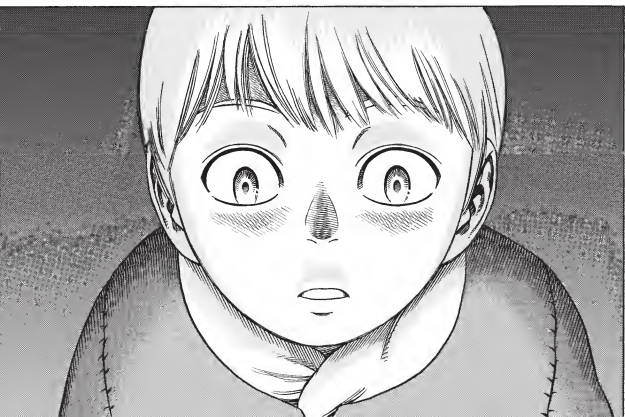
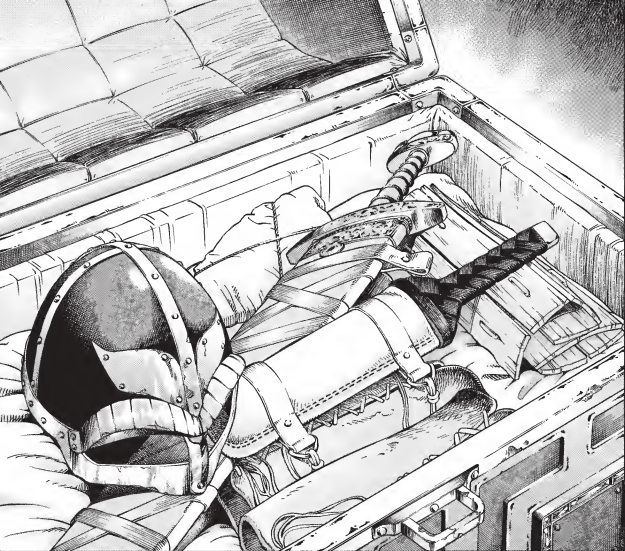


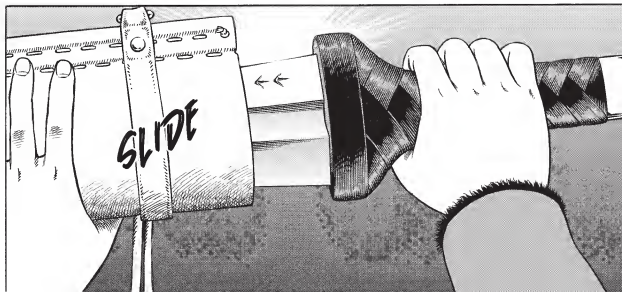
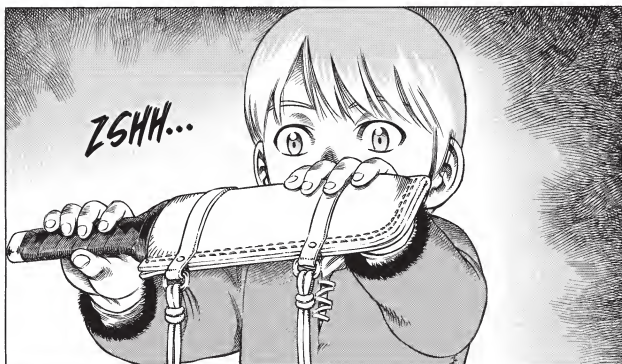
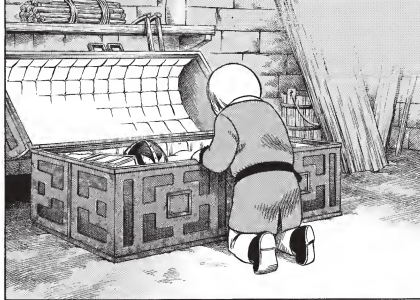


YOU'RE JUST A LITTLE BOY. NO AMOUNT OF PLEADING OR SHOWING OFF IS GOING TO CHANGE THE FACTS.

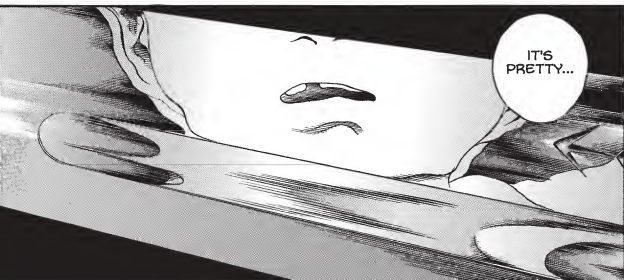
DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME.



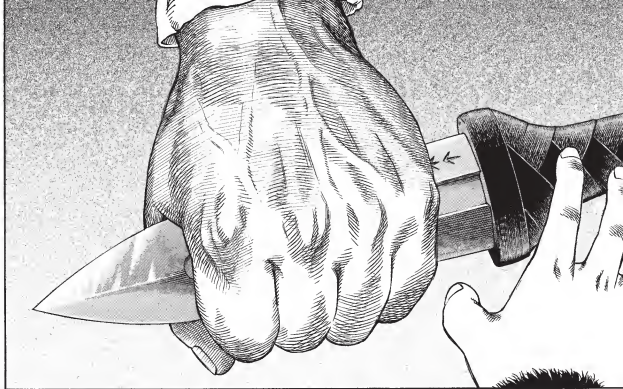


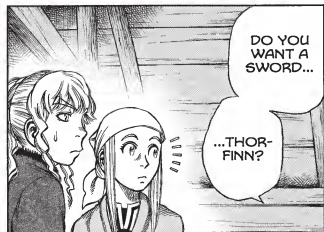
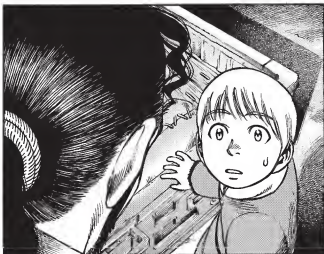


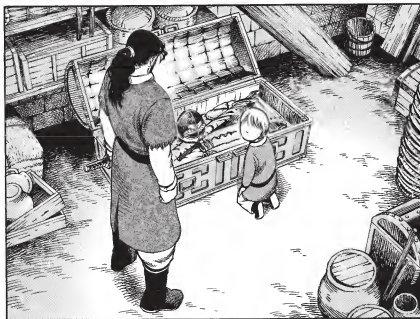
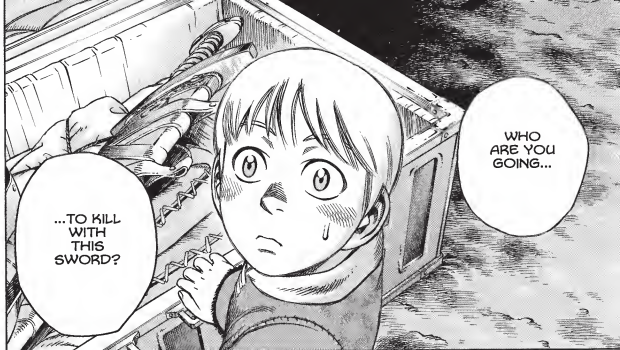
SHINNING

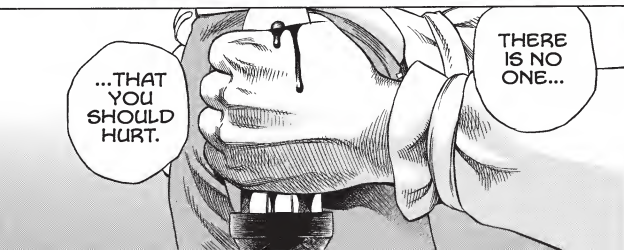
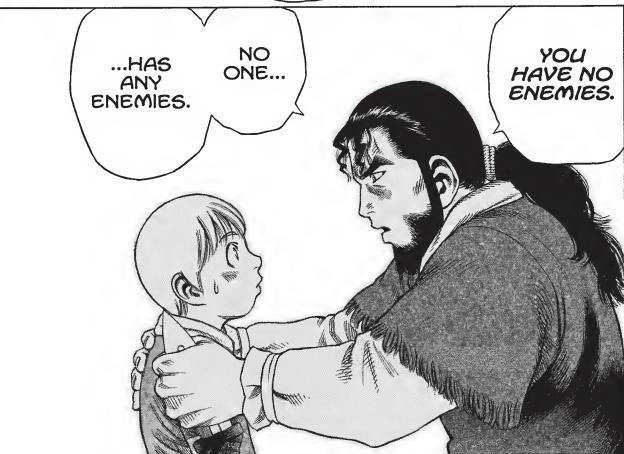


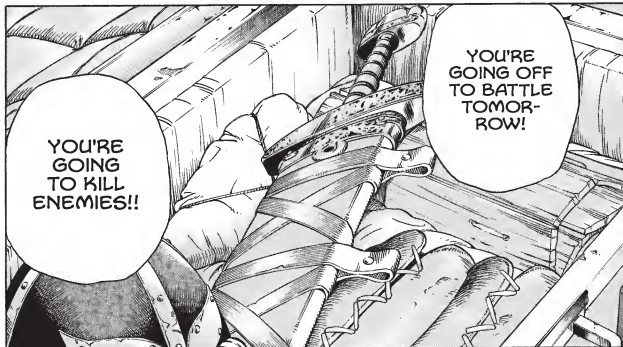
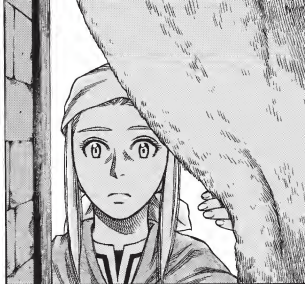
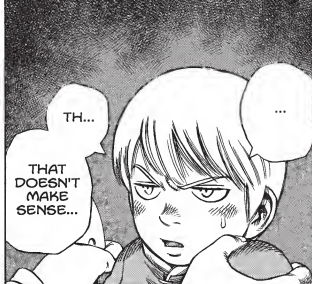
IT'S
PRETTY...

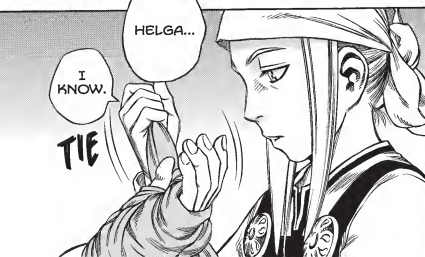


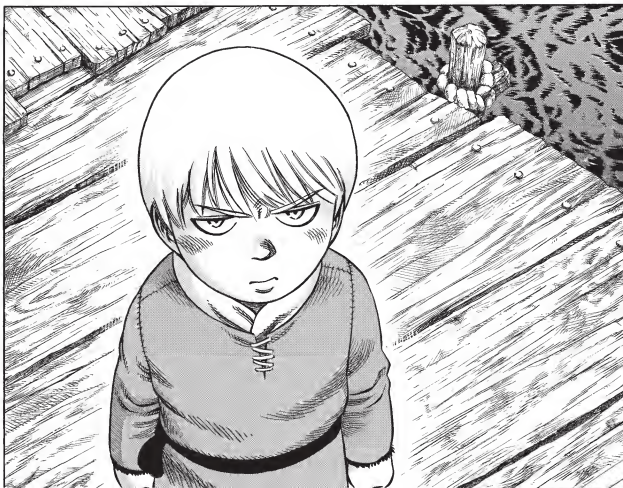
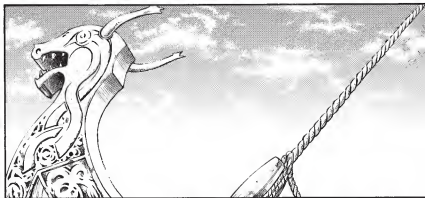
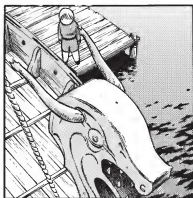
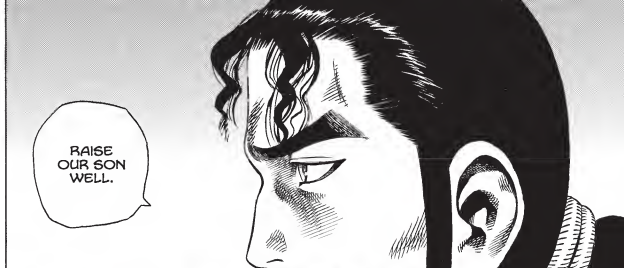


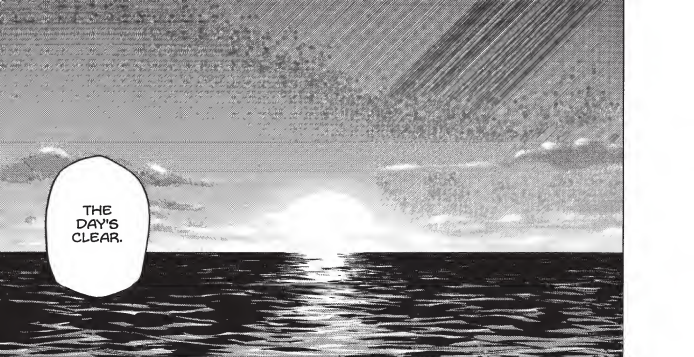




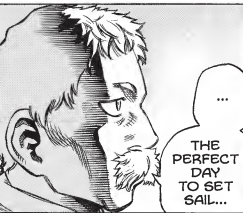






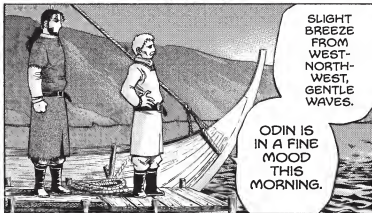


THE
DAY'S
CLEAR.



...

THE
PERFECT
DAY
TO SET
SAIL...



SLIGHT
BREEZE
FROM
WEST-
NORTH-
WEST,
GENTLE
WAVES.

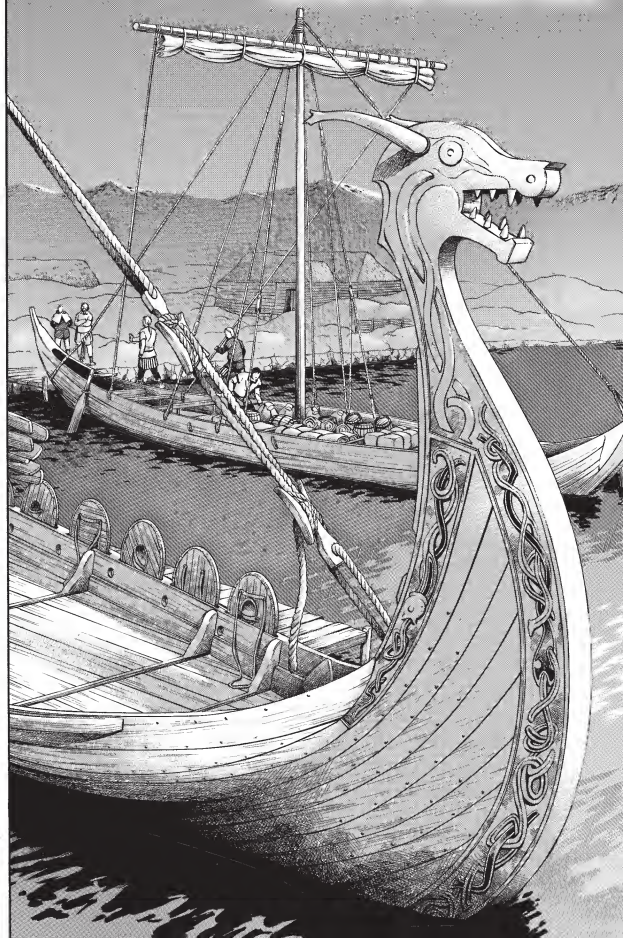
ODIN IS
IN A FINE
MOOD
THIS
MORNING.



...

YES...

CHAPTER 8: THE JOURNEY BEGINS





...TO
STAND
UP AND
BE A
MAN.

THE TIME
HAS COME
FOR ARI,
SON OF
GEITR...



THERE'S
NO GUAR-
ANTEE THAT
EVEN A
WARRIOR OF
MY STATURE
WILL COME
HOME UN-
HARMED.

IT WILL
NOT BE
AN EASY
VOYAGE.

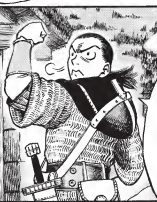
NO,
YLVA,
I KNOW.
DON'T
SAY IT.



UMM
...

CAN
I GO
BACK TO
SLEEP
NOW...?

HELLO?



BUT
RETURN
I WILL!

AND
I WILL
BRING YOU
A BEAUTIFUL
NECKLACE
PLUNDERED
FROM
ENGLAND!



ARI!!!

MA-
MARRY
...

AND
WHEN I
DO, WILL
YOU...
ERM...





WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO GET YOUR MIND STRAIGHT, YOU SILLY BOY?

I PACKED YOU A LUNCH!

YOU NEARLY FORGOT IT.



OKAY, MA!! SHEESH, NOW GET OUTTA HERE!

THERE'S PLENTY OF SALTED HERRING, SO SHARE WITH THE OTHERS.

AND DON'T FORGET TO EAT YOUR ONIONS.



WE'LL CONTINUE THIS CONVERSATION WHEN I GET BACK.

PROMISE YOU'LL WAIT FOR ME, YLVA.

HOW CAN YOU SPEAK TO YOUR OWN MOTHER THAT WAY?!

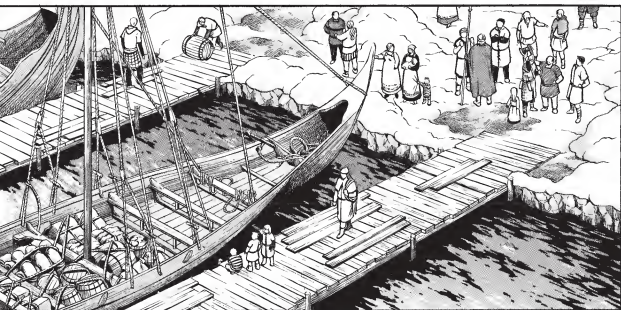


YLVA!

WELL, I HOPE HE DOESN'T GET HIMSELF KILLED...

OH...

RIGHT, THEY LEAVE TODAY...





RAHHHH
BEST OF
LUCK!

ONLY
FIVE? IT'S
NOT MUCH
OF A
FORCE.

I DON'T
KNOW...

LOOK AT
OUR BOYS,
READY FOR
BATTLE!



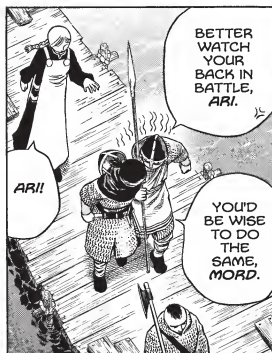
TRUE, BUT
WHO ARE
WE TO
QUESTION
HIM?

BUT IT'S
BARELY
ENOUGH
MEN TO
MOVE A
SHIP.

HMMM
...

WELL,
THORS
SAID
FIVE WAS
BEST.

HE
WOULD
KNOW,
SO IF
HE SAYS
SO...



ARI!!

BETTER
WATCH
YOUR
BACK IN
BATTLE,
ARI.

YOU'D
BE WISE
TO DO
THE
SAME,
MORD.

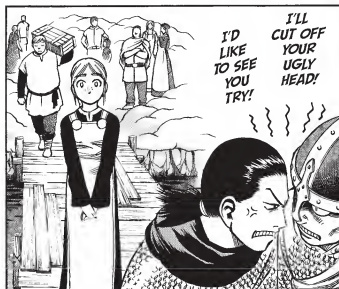
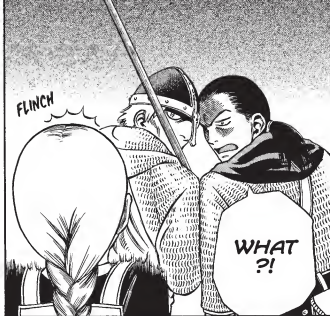


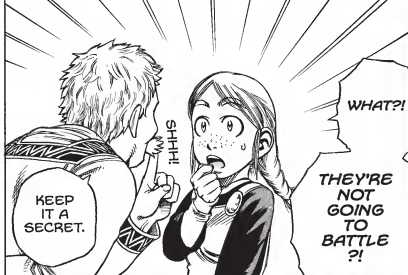
SHOVE
IT,
LOSER.

HEY,
ARI.

YOU KEEP
YOUR
STINKING
MEAT-
HOOKS
OFF HER,
MORD.

THE HELL
WERE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT
WITH
YLVA?





KEEP
IT A
SECRET.

SHHH

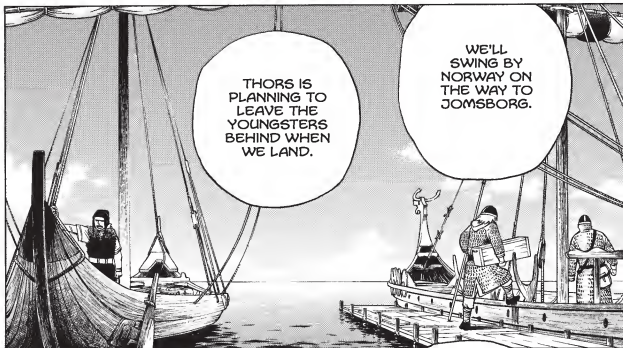
WHAT?!

THEY'RE
NOT
GOING
TO
BATTLE
?!



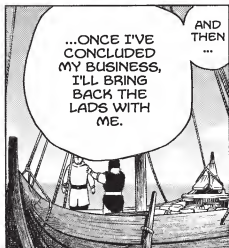
WHISPER
WHISPER
WHISPER

HMM
AHH



THORS IS
PLANNING TO
LEAVE THE
YOUNGSTERS
BEHIND WHEN
WE LAND.

WE'LL
SWING BY
NORWAY ON
THE WAY TO
JOMSBORG.



...ONCE I'VE
CONCLUDED
MY BUSINESS,
I'LL BRING
BACK THE
LADS WITH
ME.

AND
THEN
...



WHILE IN
NORWAY, THORS
WILL HIRE A
NEW CREW
FROM THE KING
TO HELP HIM
TRAVEL TO
JOMSBORG.

I WAS
FRIENDS
WITH THE
LAST KING,
SO HE'LL
HELP US.

A man with a mustache and a patterned tunic is speaking. He has a cheerful expression and is gesturing with his hand.

FIVE JUST HAPPENS TO BE THE MAXIMUM NUMBER I CAN FERRY BACK TO ICELAND IN MY LITTLE SHIP.

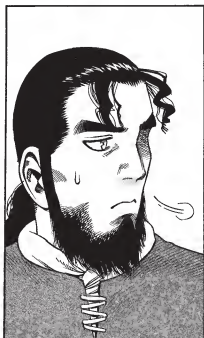
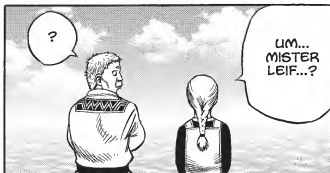
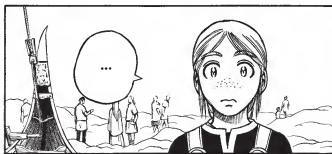
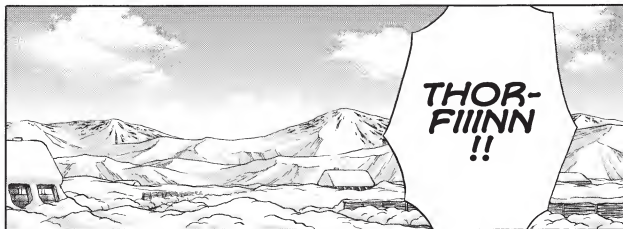
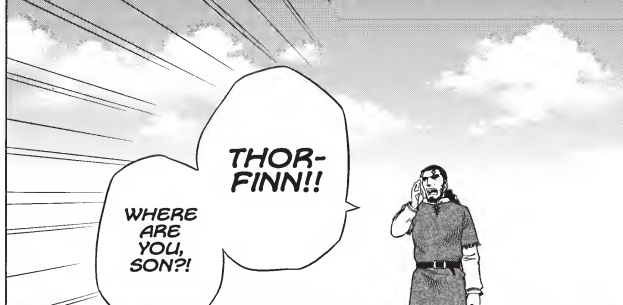
BESIDES, HOW CAN YOU HAVE A BATTLE WITH ONLY FIVE MEN?

...

A man in a dark tunic and boots is walking through a snowy, mountainous landscape. There are small wooden structures in the background.

THORS WON'T TAKE A SINGLE ONE OF THEM TO ENGLAND.

THAT'S JUST THE KIND OF MAN HE IS.

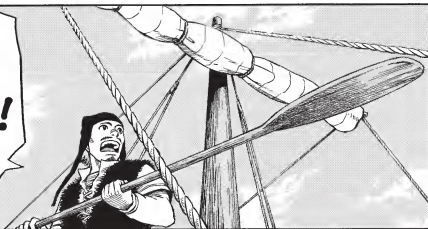


...THORS IS
GOING INTO
BATTLE
ALONE?

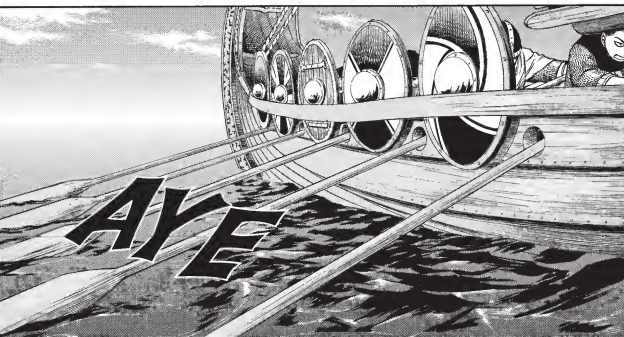


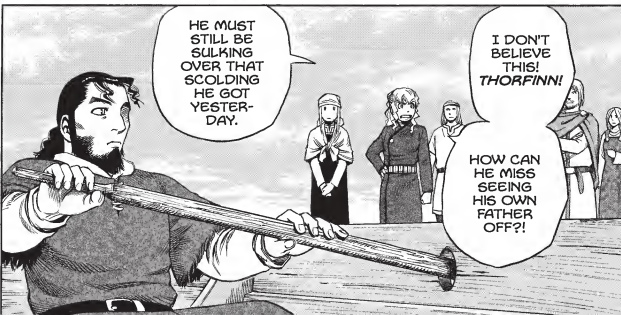
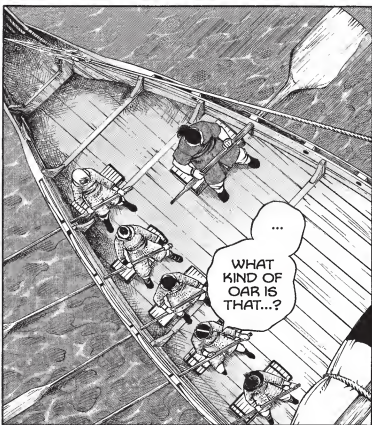
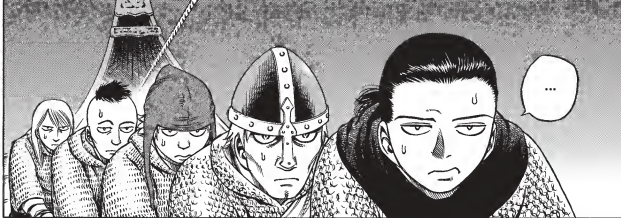
DOES
THAT
MEAN...

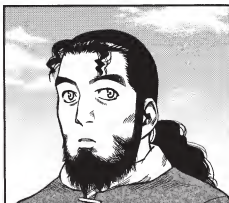
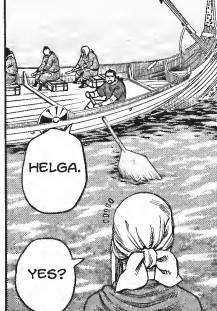
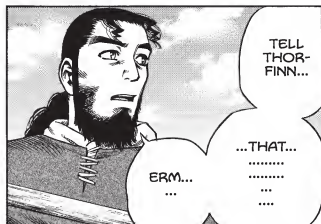
**MAN
OARS!**

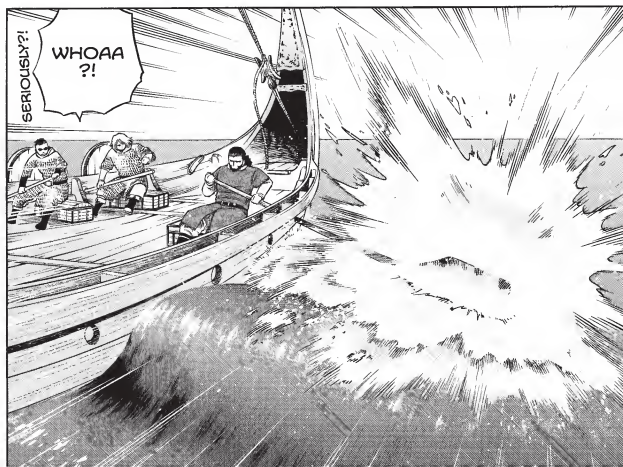
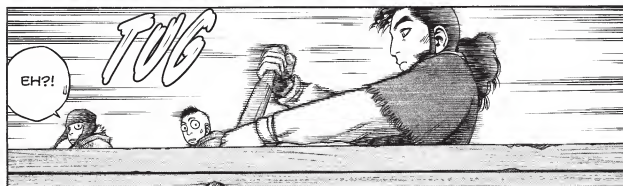


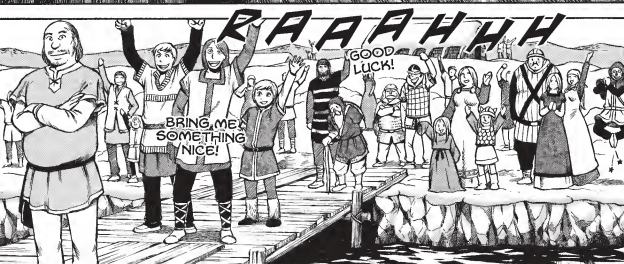
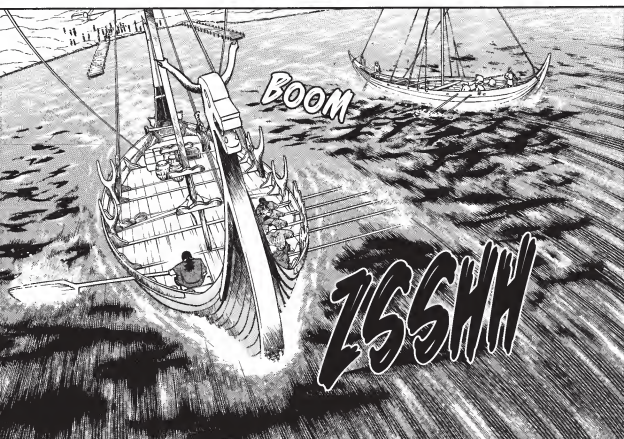
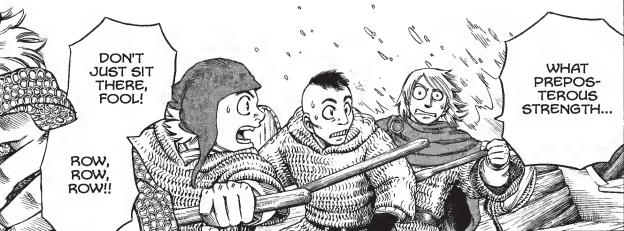
AYE

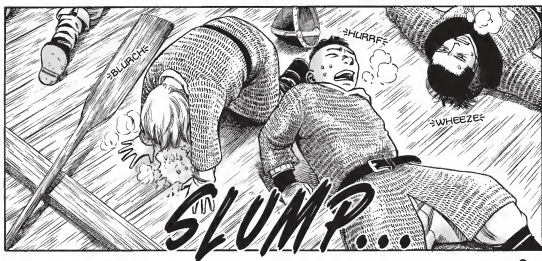
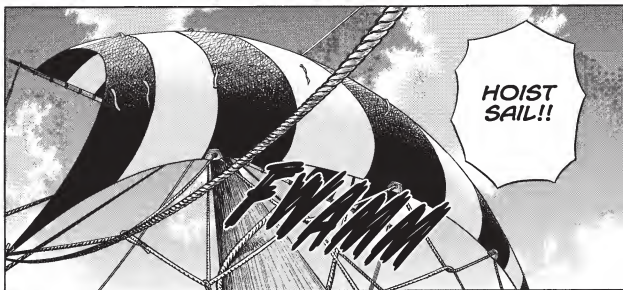
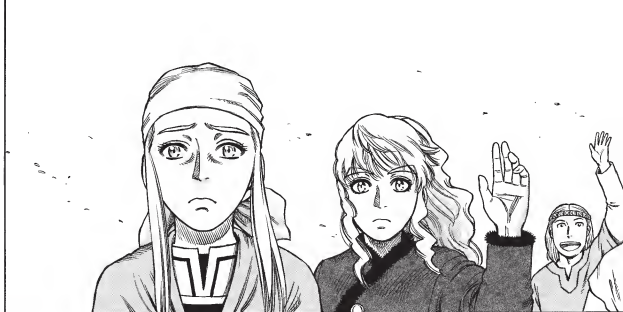




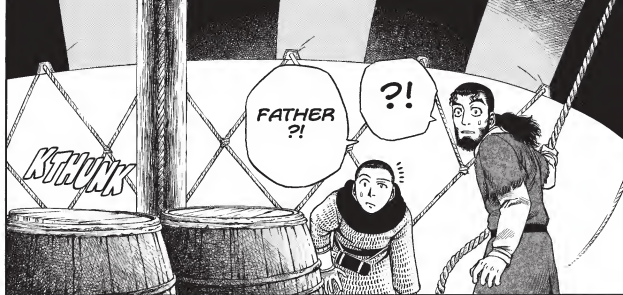


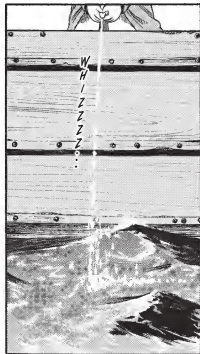
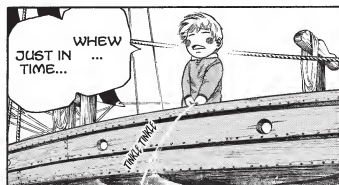


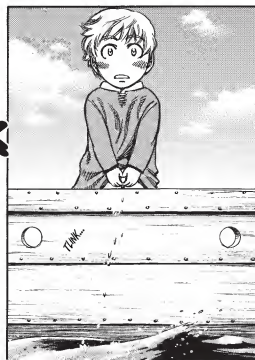
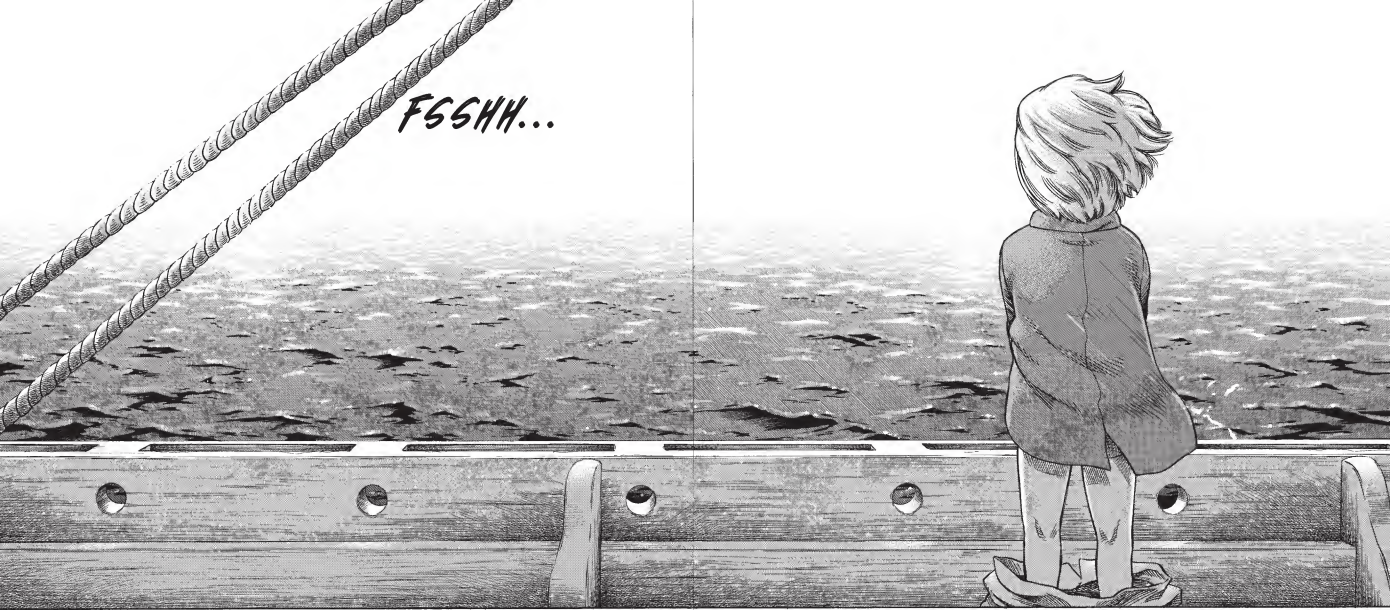


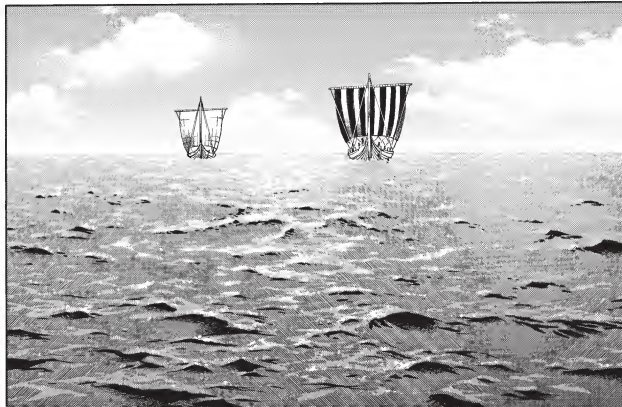
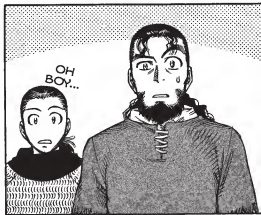
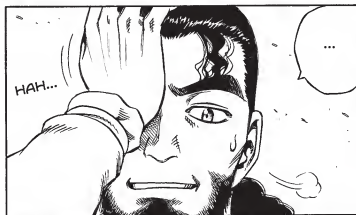
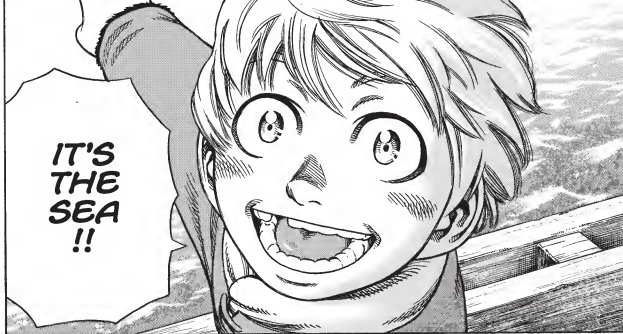




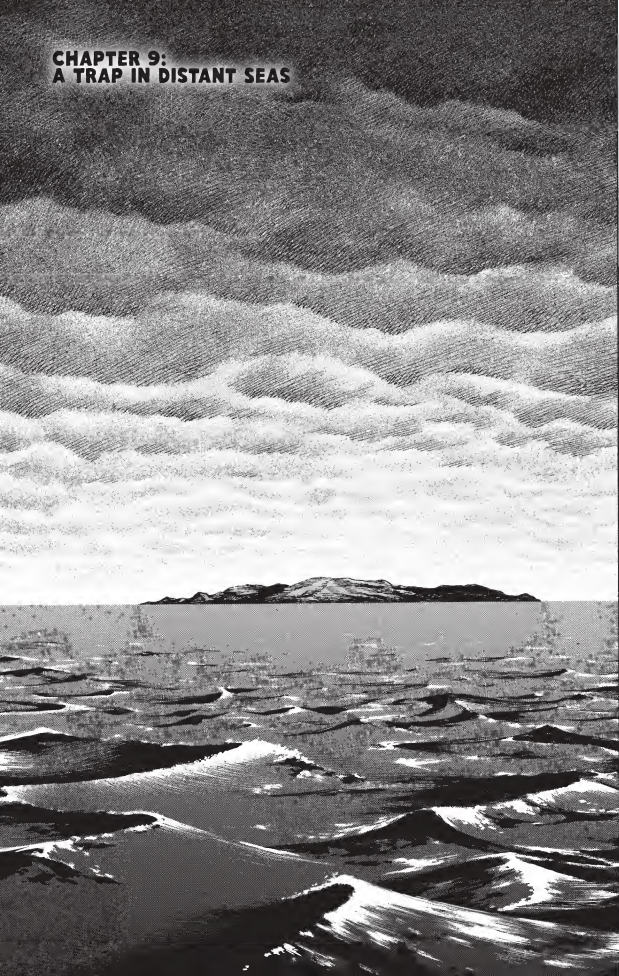


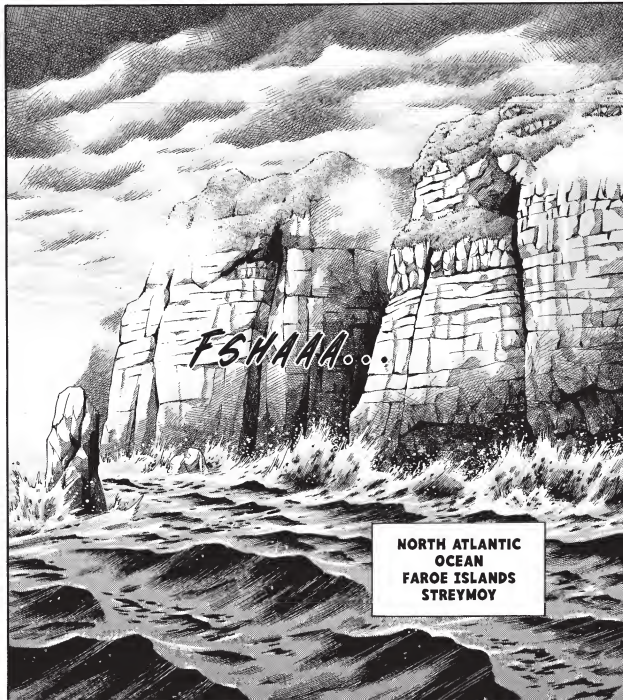




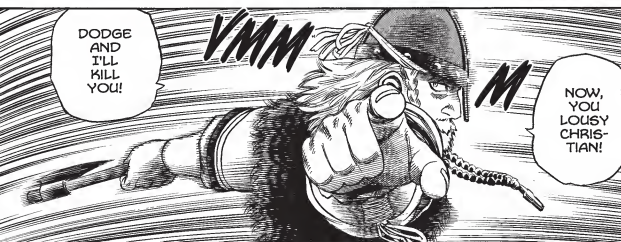
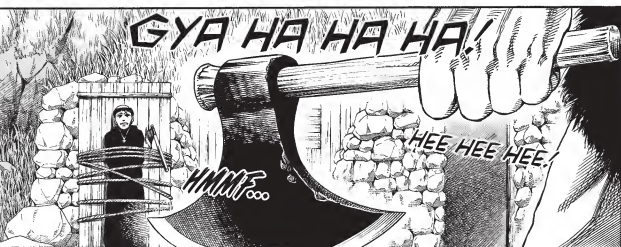


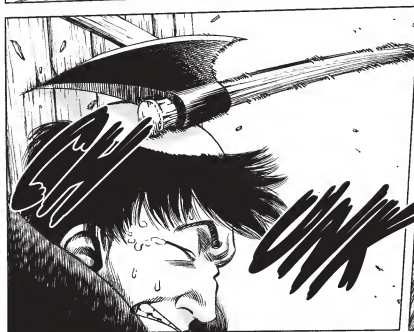
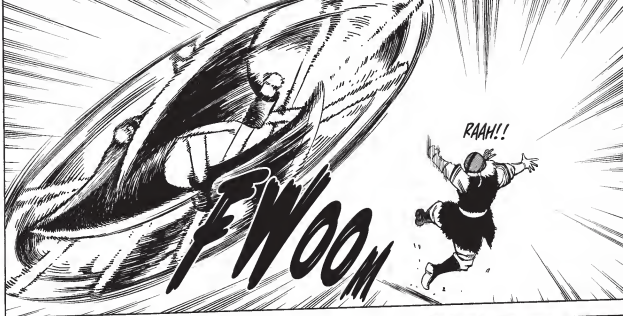
**CHAPTER 9:
A TRAP IN DISTANT SEAS**





NORTH ATLANTIC
OCEAN
FAROE ISLANDS
STREYMOY









STEP ASIDE.
IT'S TIME FOR
THE MASTER TO
SHOW YOU HOW
IT'S DONE!

GYA HA
HA HA!

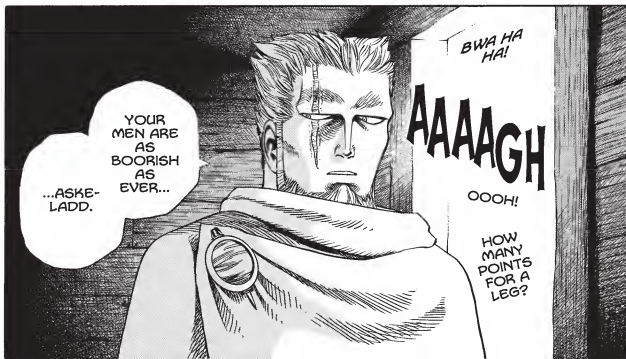
GCHUNK



FORGET
THEM,
THEY'RE
TOO
GOOD
TO DRINK
OUR
SWILL.

HAH!

SO STIFF,
THOSE
POLEARMS
MUST BE
STUCK UP
THEIR
ARSE.



YOUR
MEN ARE
AS
BOORISH
AS
EVER...

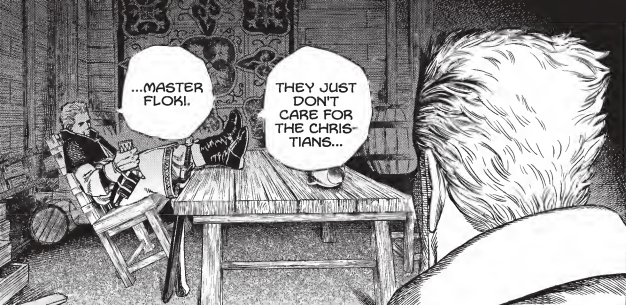
...ASKE-
LADD.

BWA HA
HA!

AAAAGH

OOOH!

HOW
MANY
POINTS
FOR A
LEG?



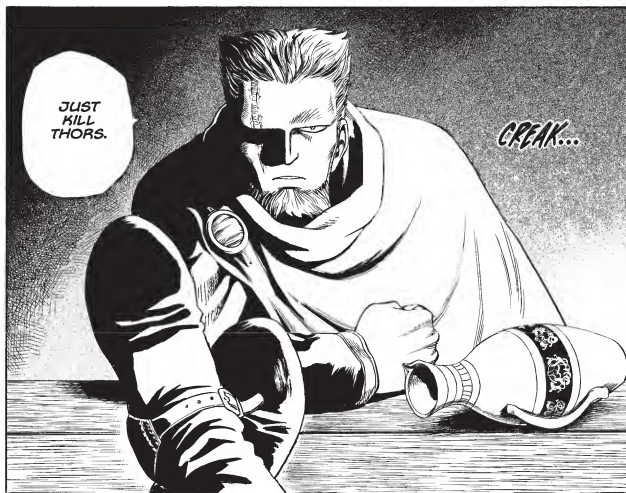
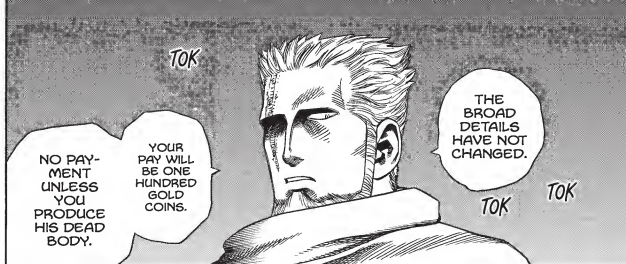
...MASTER
FLOKI.

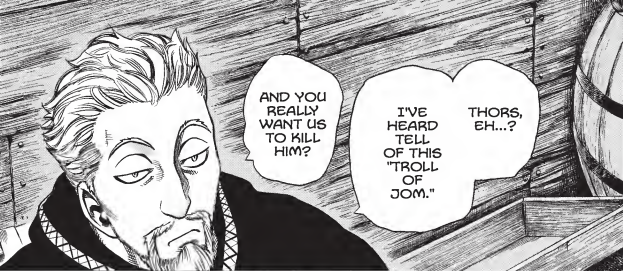
THEY JUST
DON'T
CARE FOR
THE CHRIS-
TIAN...



LET'S
TALK
BUSINESS,
SHALL
WE?

MY MEN
AND I ARE
TIRED OF
BEING
COOPED
UP IN THIS
BACKWATER.

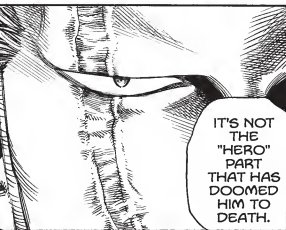




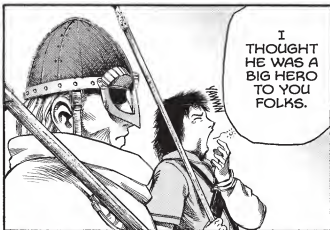
AND YOU
REALLY
WANT US
TO KILL
HIM?

I'VE
HEARD
TELL
OF THIS
"TROLL
OF
JOM."

THORS,
EH...?



IT'S NOT
THE
"HERO"
PART
THAT HAS
DOOMED
HIM TO
DEATH.



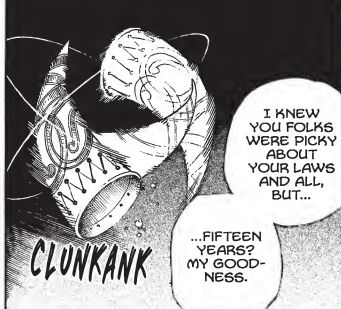
I
THOUGHT
HE WAS A
BIG HERO
TO YOU
FOLKS.



HE
DESERTED
IN THE
FACE OF
THE
ENEMY.

AND HE
WAS SEN-
TENCED
TO DEATH
OVER FIF-
TEEN YEARS
AGO.

HE HAS
FLAGRANTLY
FLOUTED THE
PRECEPTS OF
OUR BAND.



I KNEW
YOU FOLKS
WERE PICKY
ABOUT
YOUR LAWS
AND ALL,
BUT...

...FIFTEEN
YEARS?
MY GOOD-
NESS.



DAMN,
EMPTY.

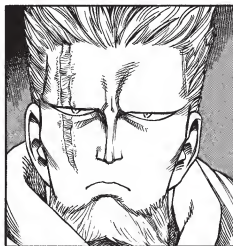
AHHH.



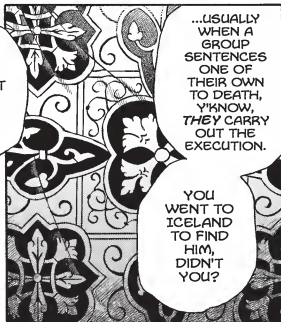
THE
ONLY
THING
IS...

HEY, IF
YOU'RE
GOING TO
PAY US,
SURE, YES,
WE'LL TAKE
ON THE
JOB.

ER,
I
MEAN-

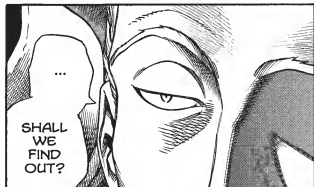
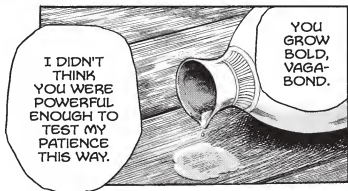


WHY
DIDN'T
YOU JUST
GUT HIM
ON THE
SPOT?

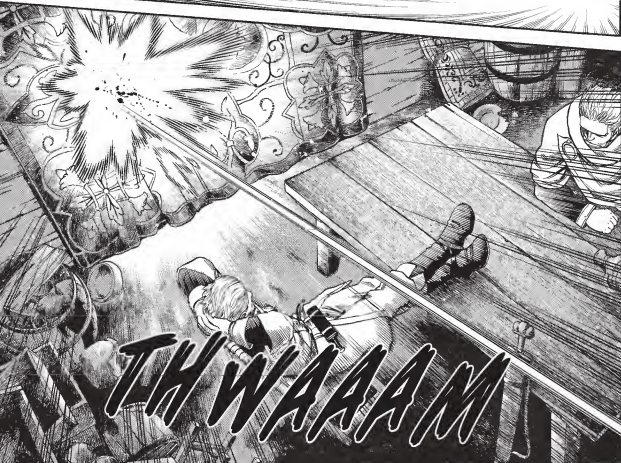


...USUALLY
WHEN A
GROUP
SENTENCES
ONE OF
THEIR OWN
TO DEATH,
Y'KNOW,
THEY CARRY
OUT THE
EXECUTION.

YOU
WENT TO
ICELAND
TO FIND
HIM,
DIDN'T
YOU?







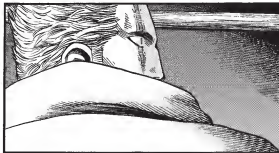
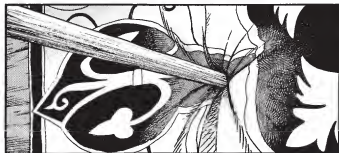
GYA HA HA HA!

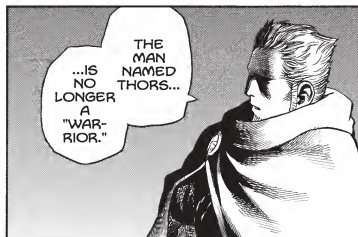
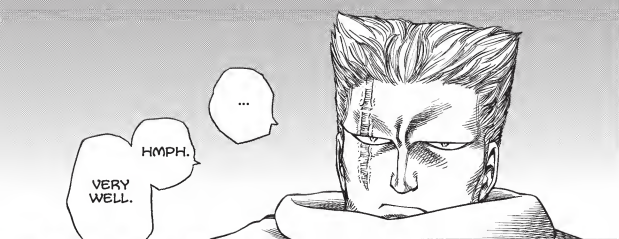
SLIPPED
CLEAN
OUTTA
MY HAND!
ANYONE
HURT IN
THERE?!

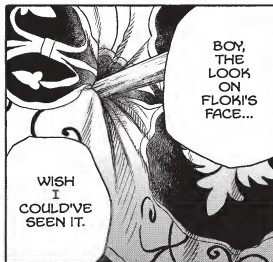
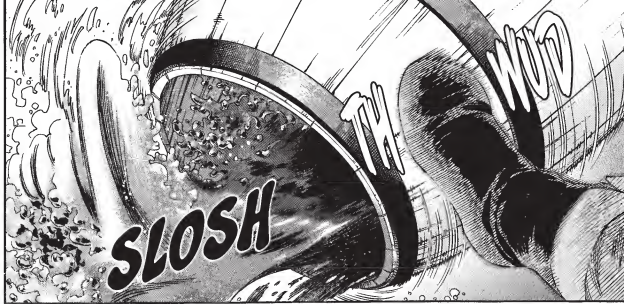
YOU'VE
HAD ONE
HORN TOO
MANY,
BJORN!

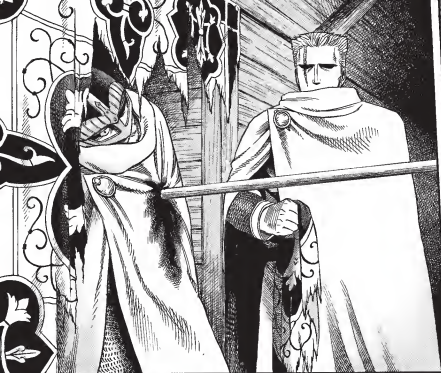
LEARN HOW
TO THROW!

OOPS!
SORRY
ABOUT
THAT,
BOSS!



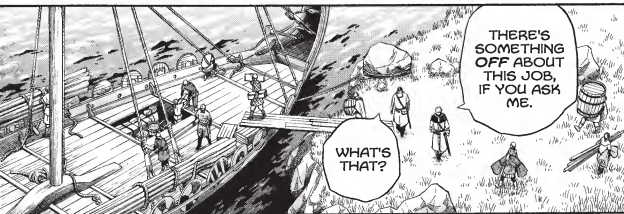






SO
THEY'RE
MORE
THAN
JUST
TALK.

HMPH...



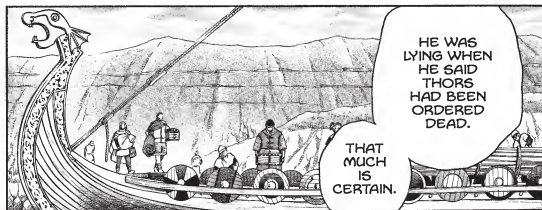
THERE'S
SOMETHING
OFF ABOUT
THIS JOB,
IF YOU ASK
ME.

WHAT'S
THAT?



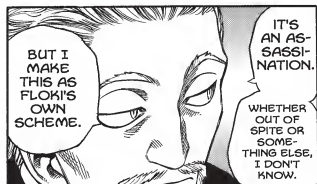
HE'S
HIDING
TOO
MUCH.

IT'S
FLOKI.



HE WAS LYING WHEN HE SAID THORS HAD BEEN ORDERED DEAD.

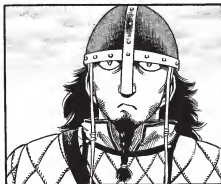
THAT MUCH IS CERTAIN.



BUT I MAKE THIS AS FLOKI'S OWN SCHEME.

IT'S AN ASSASSINATION.

WHETHER OUT OF SPITE OR SOMETHING ELSE, I DON'T KNOW.



WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE HE DOESN'T HAVE HIS OWN MEN DO THE DIRTY WORK?

WE KILL HIM, WE GET PAID. WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

AND WHAT'S YOUR POINT, ASKE-LADD?



THAT, TOO, POSSIBLY...

BECAUSE HE DOESN'T WANT TO SOIL HIS OWN HANDS DEFYING OFFICIAL ORDERS?



SO
MANY,
IN
FACT...

...THAT HE
COULD NOT
HIDE HIS
MISERABLE
FAILURE
FROM THE
CHIEF.

BUT I
WONDER
IF HE WAS
MORE
AFRAID OF
POTENTIAL
LOSSES?

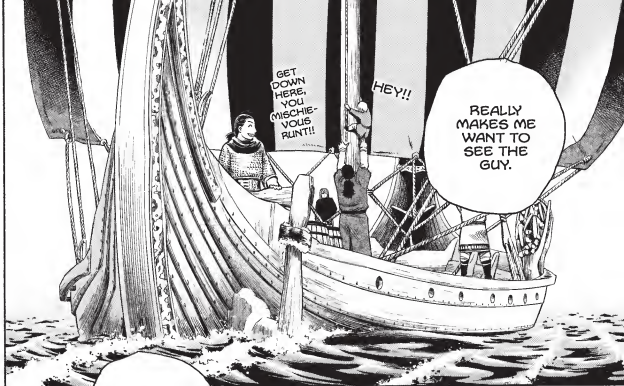


YOU'RE
JOKING...

AGAINST
ONE EX-
WARRIOR?

AN
ENTIRE
TEAM OF
JOMBS-
VIKINGS?

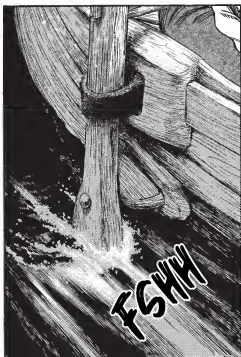




THE
"TROLL
OF
JOM."

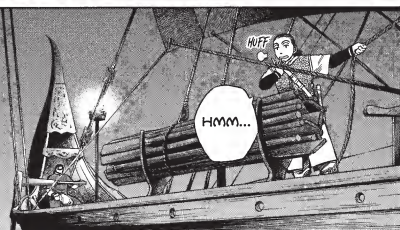
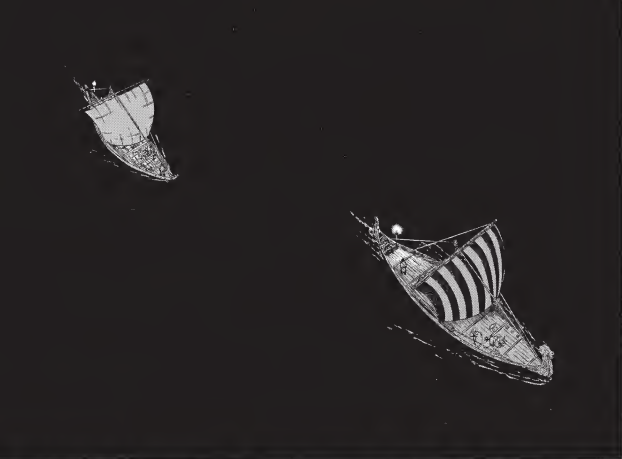
I SURE
HOPE
HE'S
WORTH
ALL THE
TROUBLE.





CHAPTER 10: NIGHT WAKE



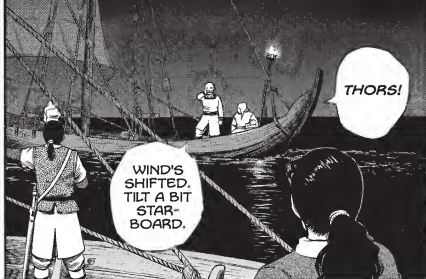


ARE WE
EVEN
MOVING
FOR
THAT
MAY-
TEAR?

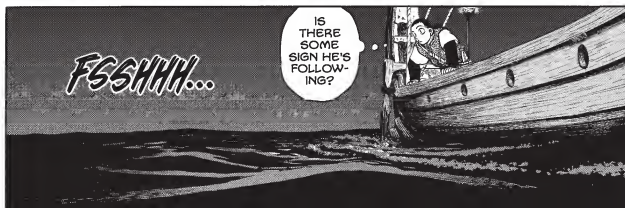
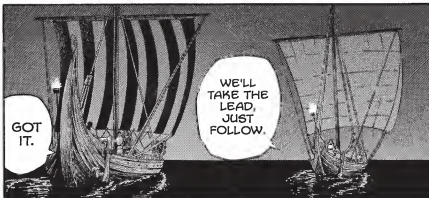
IF WE
CAN'T SEE
ANYTHING,
HOW DO
WE KNOW
WHICH WAY
WE'RE
GOING?

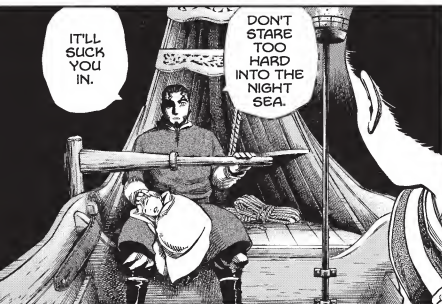
FSHHHHH

CAN'T
EVEN
SEE THE
STARS.



THORS!





IT'LL
SUCK
YOU
IN.

DON'T
STARE
TOO
HARD
INTO THE
NIGHT
SEA.



ARI.

AH



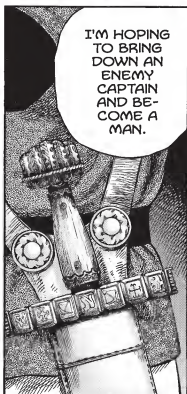
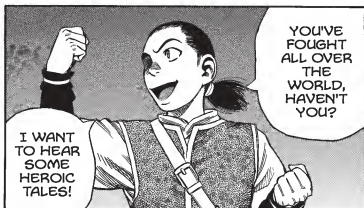
SMACK

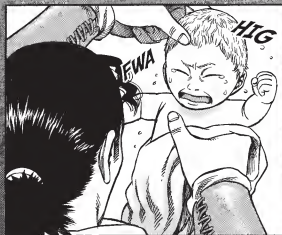
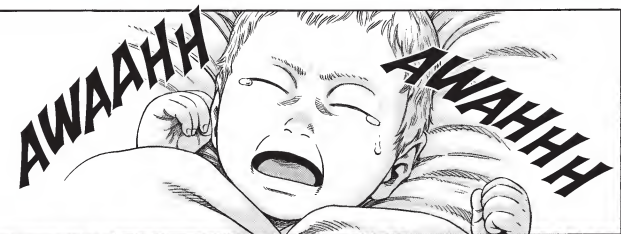


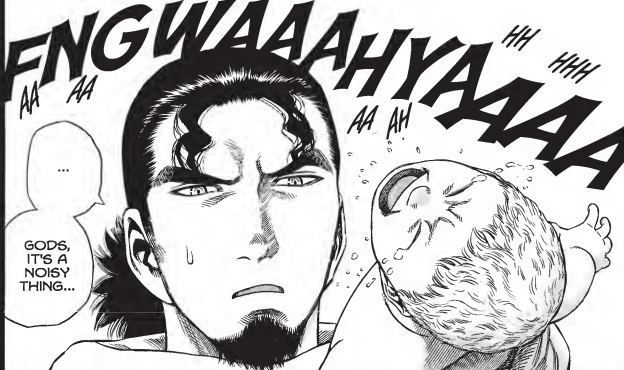
SO,
THORS
...
WHAT'S
THE
BATTLE-
FIELD
LIKE?

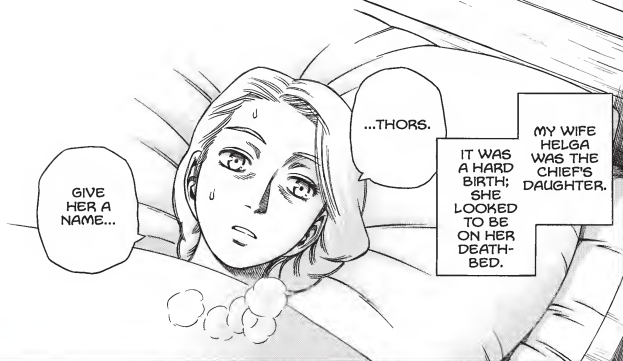


FSSHHH







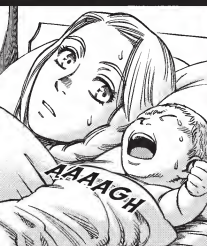


GIVE
HER A
NAME...

...THORS.

IT WAS
A HARD
BIRTH;
SHE
LOOKED
TO BE
ON HER
DEATH-
BED.

MY WIFE
HELGA
WAS THE
CHIEF'S
DAUGHTER.



AAAAGH



PICK
SOME-
THING
OUT. I'M
BUSY
NOW.

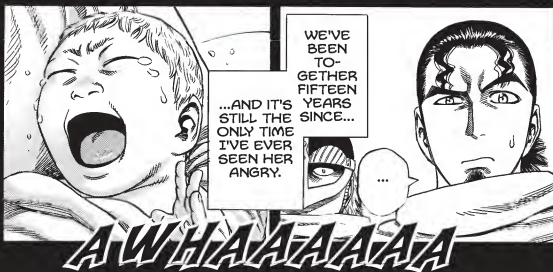
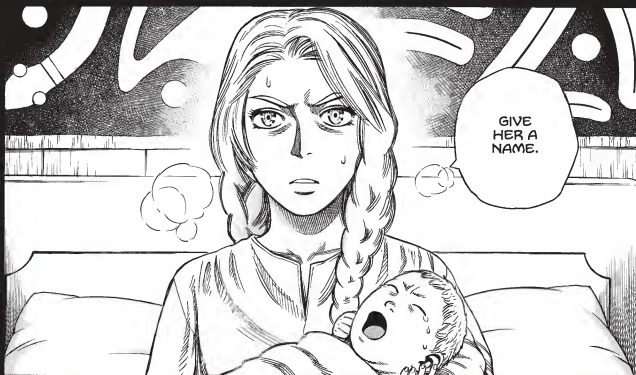
WE
MUST
VENTURE
TO
NORWAY.

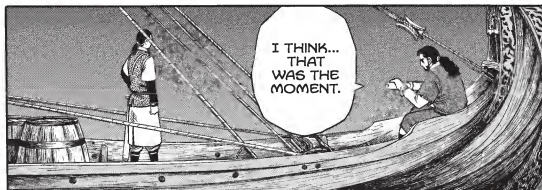
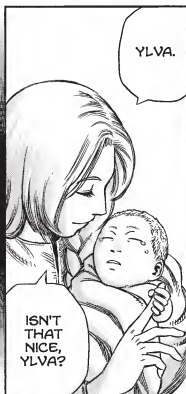
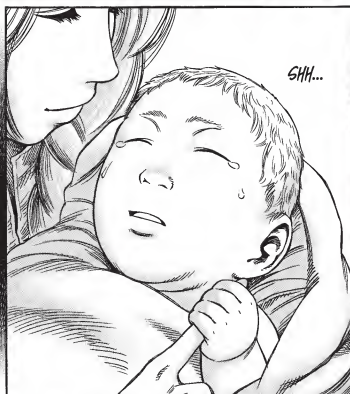
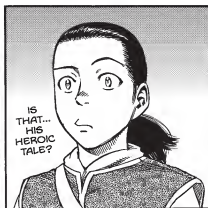


THORS!

I'M
COMING
NOW.

THE
SHIP IS
READY,
THORS.





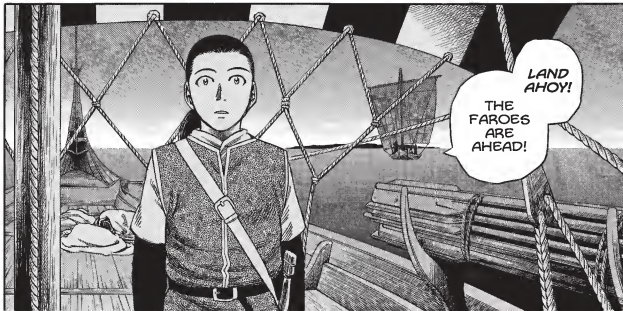


THAT'S
WHY
I
FLED.

EVER
SINCE,
I'VE BEEN
AFRAID
OF
BATTLE.

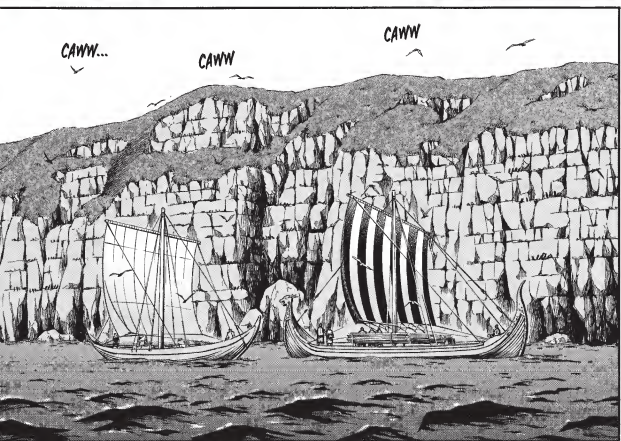


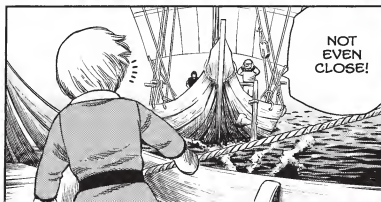
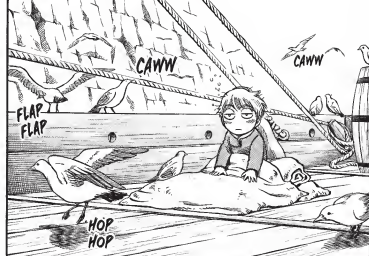
MY OLD
COMRADES
CURSED MY
NAME, I'M
SURE.

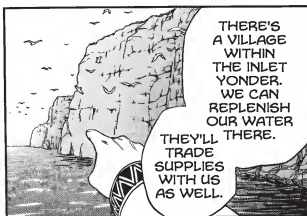
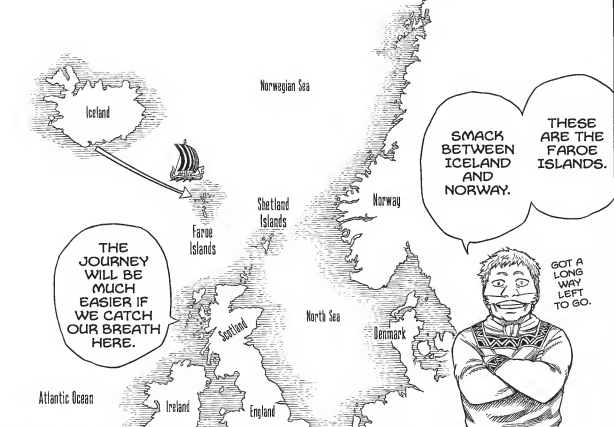


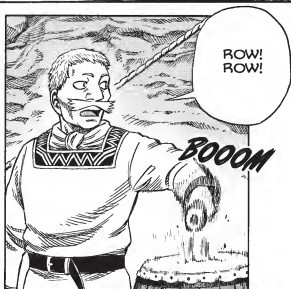
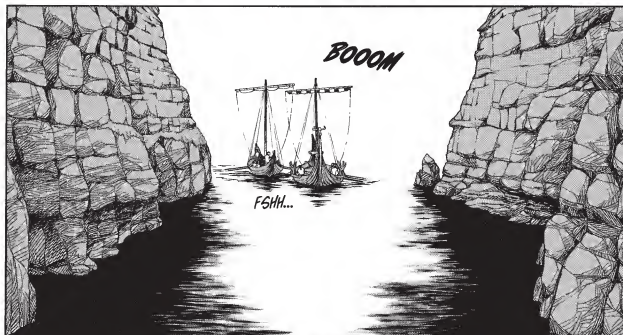
**LAND
AHOY!**

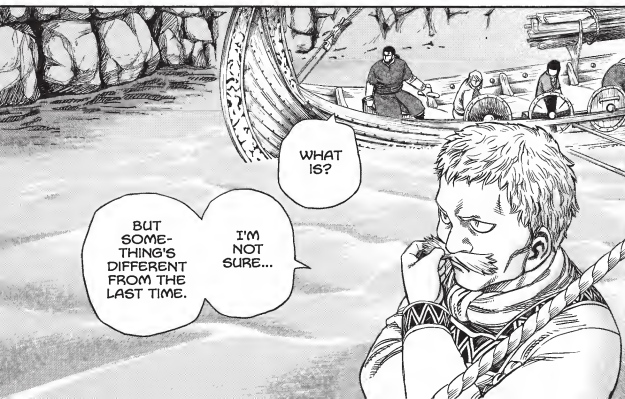
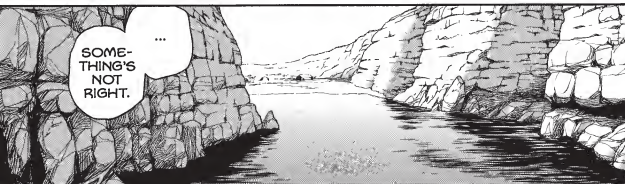
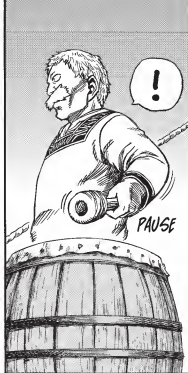
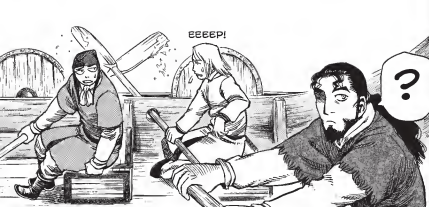
THE
FAROEES
ARE
AHEAD!

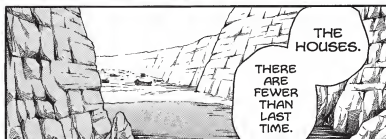
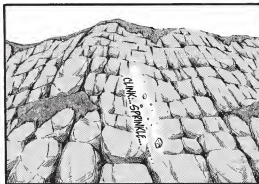
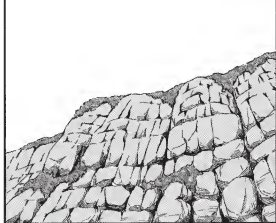


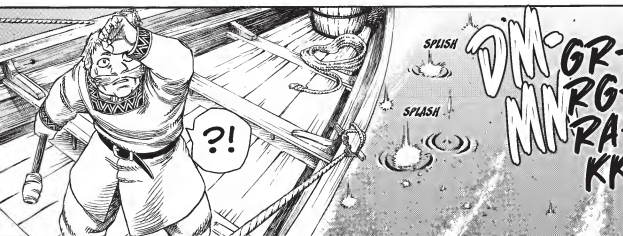




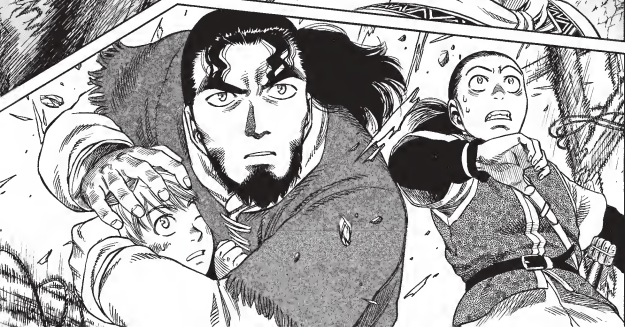




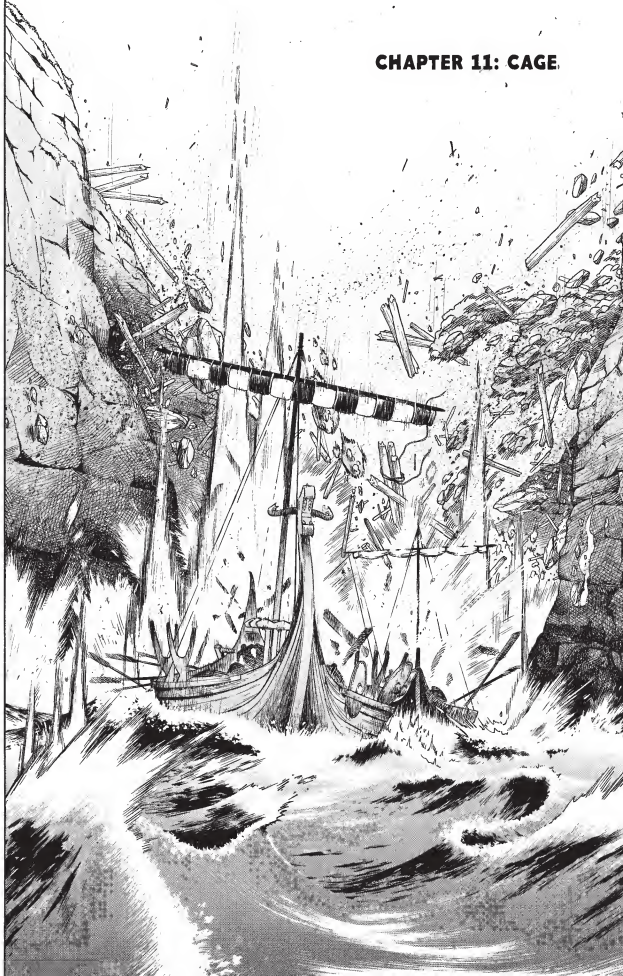


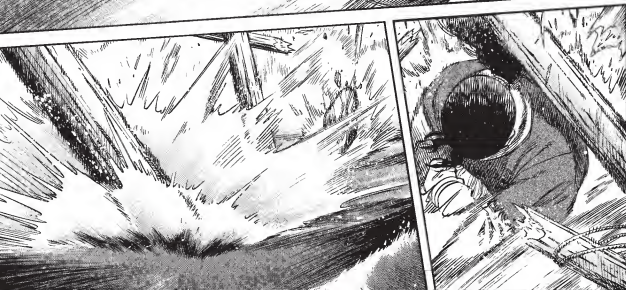


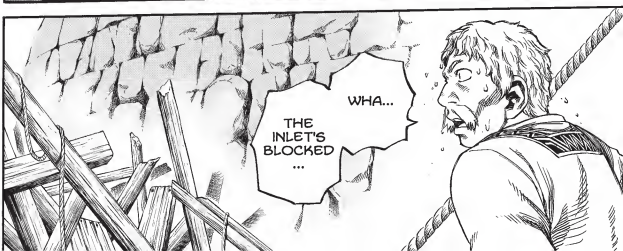
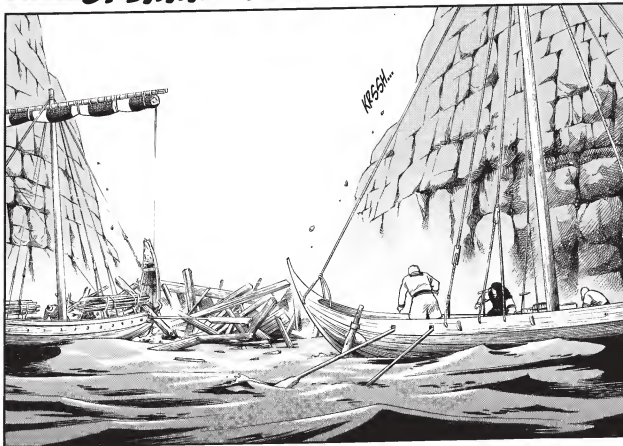
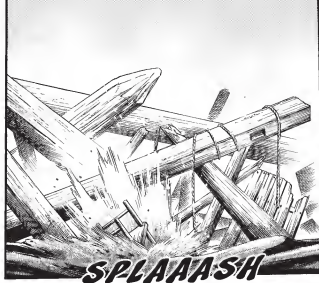


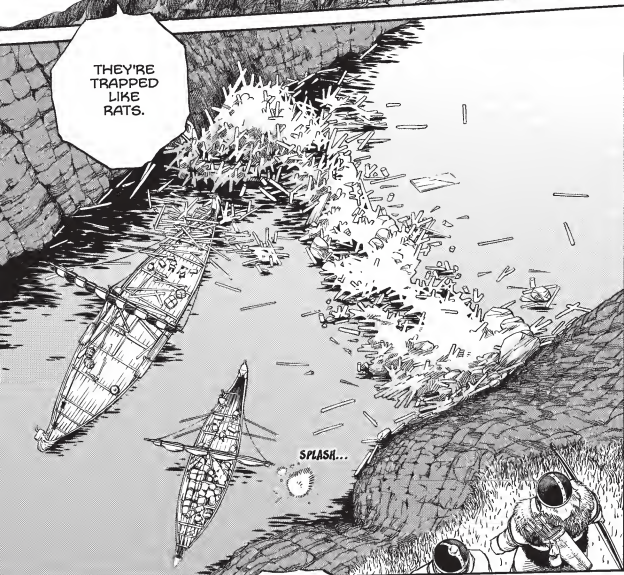
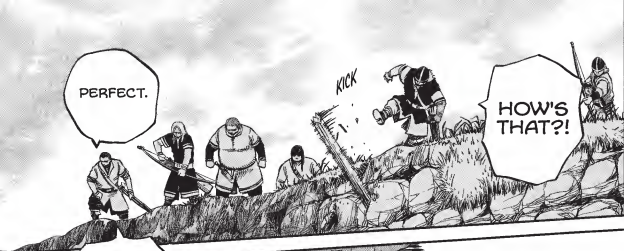


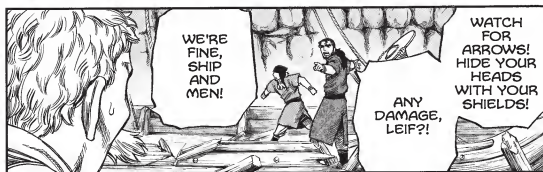
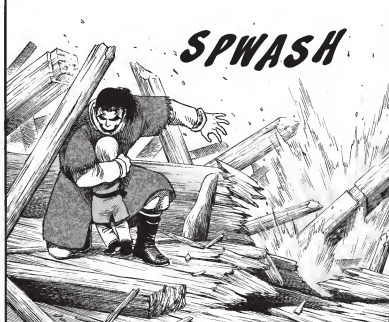
CHAPTER 11: CAGE

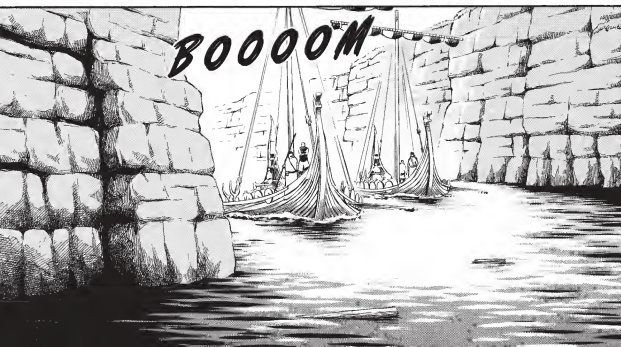
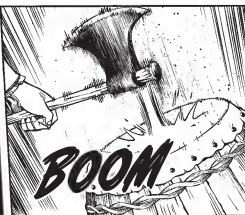
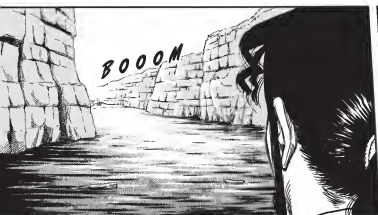




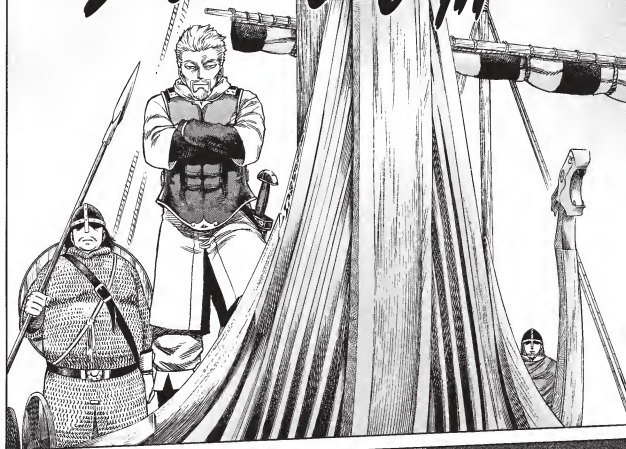


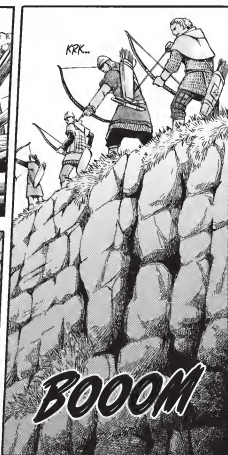






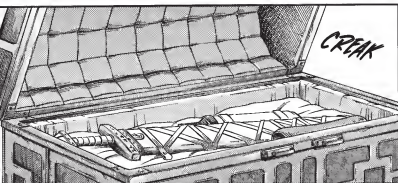
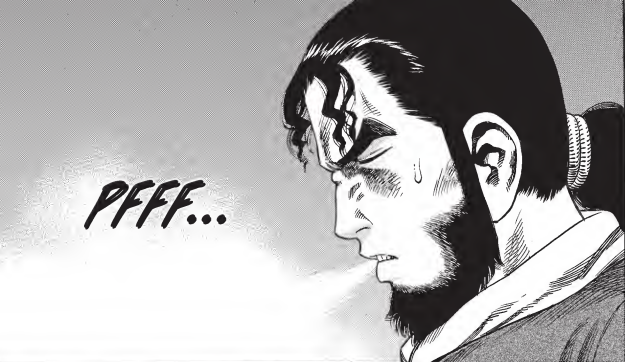
BOOOOM







PFFF...





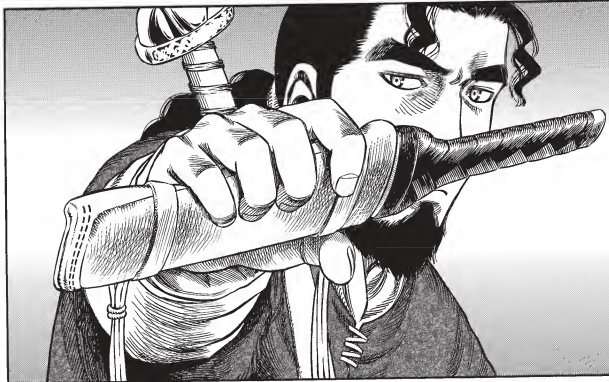
THOR-FINN.



TUG

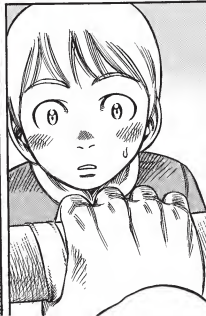


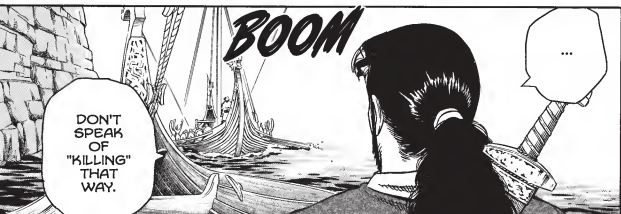
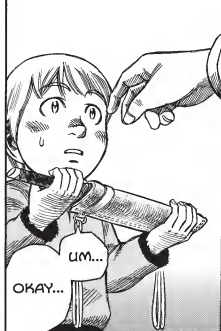
...

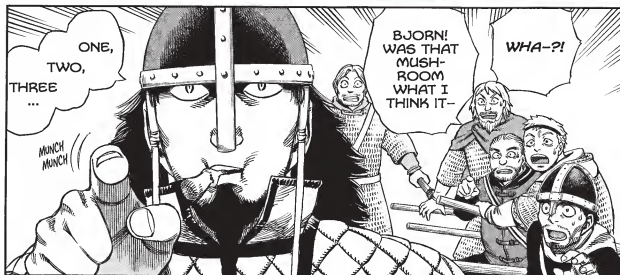


ONLY USE
IT TO
PROTECT
YOURSELF.

GOT THAT?
ONLY
WHEN IT'S
ABSOLUTELY
NECESSARY!



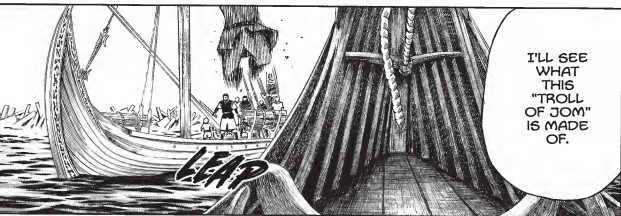






JUST SIT
BACK
HERE AND
LET ME
TEST HIM
FIRST.

THERE'S
NO FUN IN
OVER-
RUNNING
THEM ALL
AT ONCE.



I'LL SEE
WHAT
THIS
"TROLL
OF JOM"
IS MADE
OF.

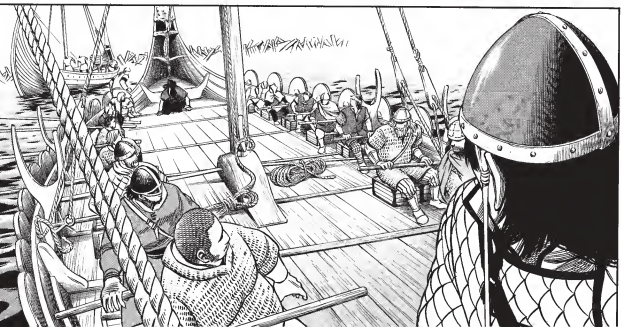


THUMP

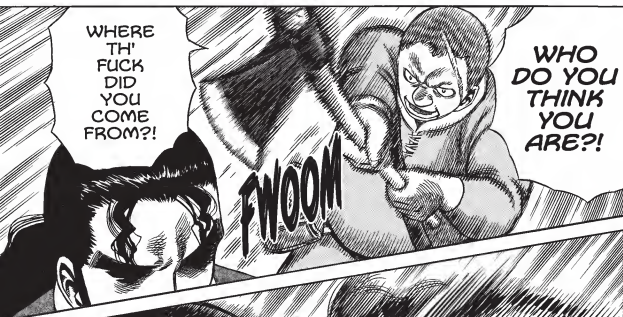
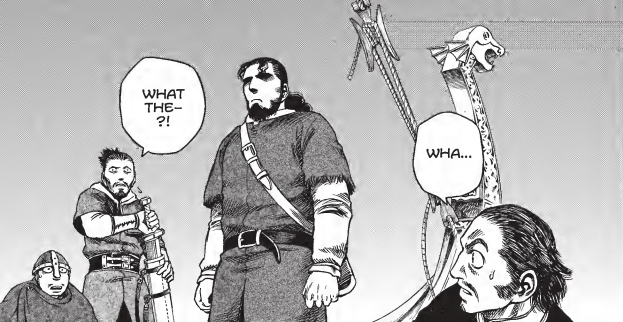
SEEMS
HE HAS
THE
SAME
IDEA.

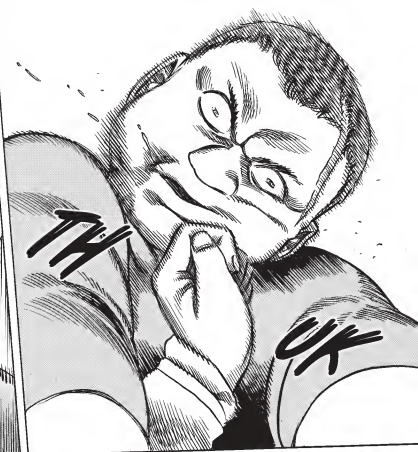
VERY
WELL,
GO
AHEAD.

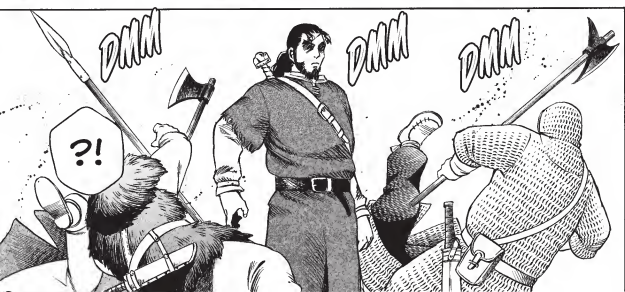
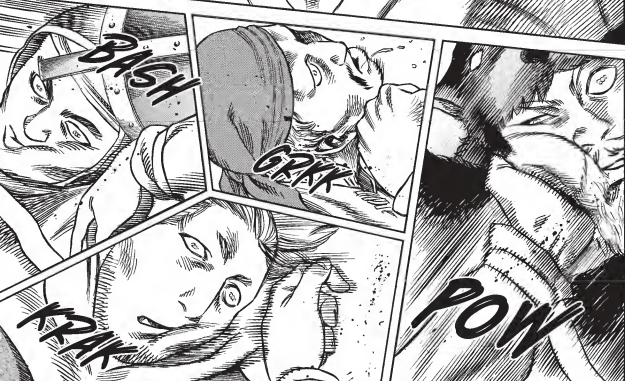
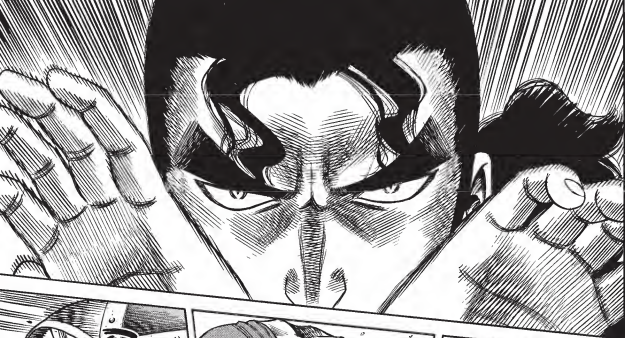
HMF
?

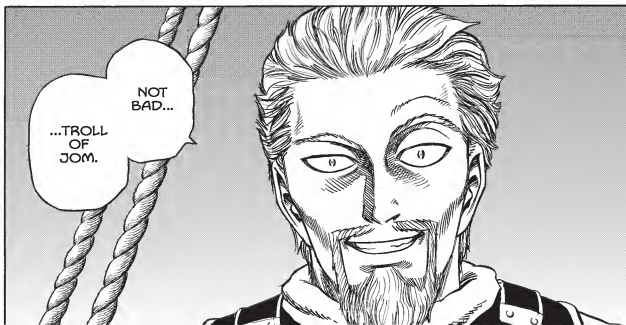






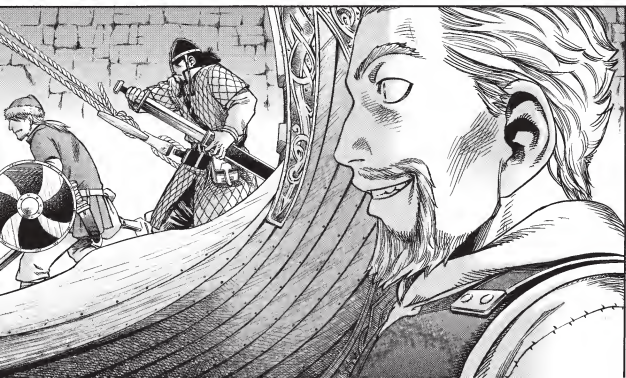


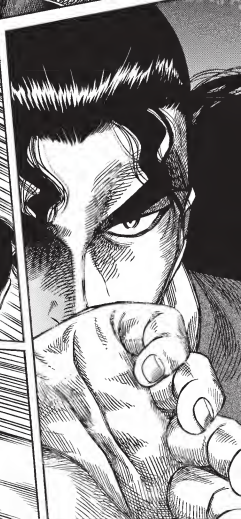
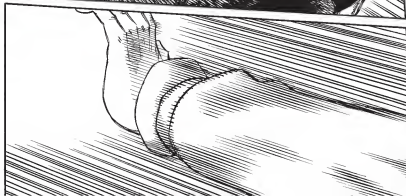




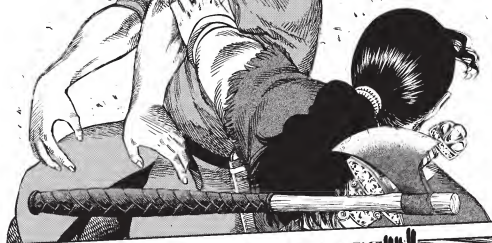


CHAPTER 12: MORE THAN A MONSTER



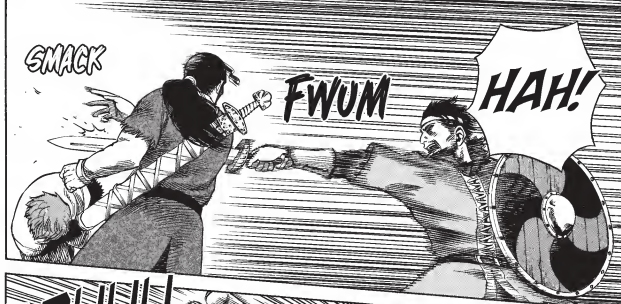


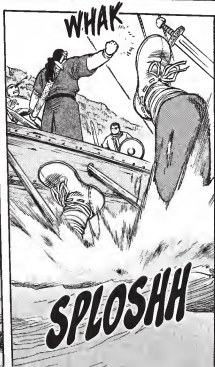
CRUNCH

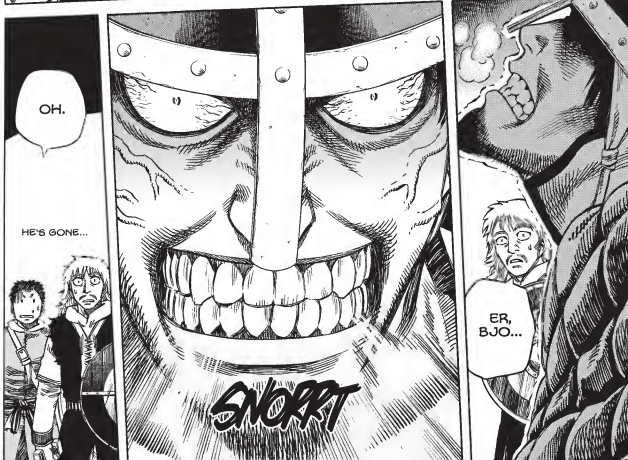
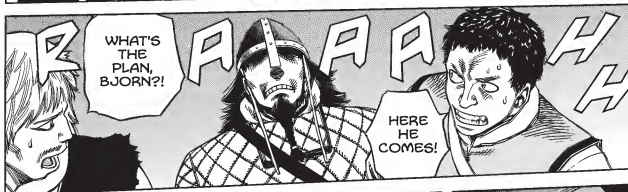
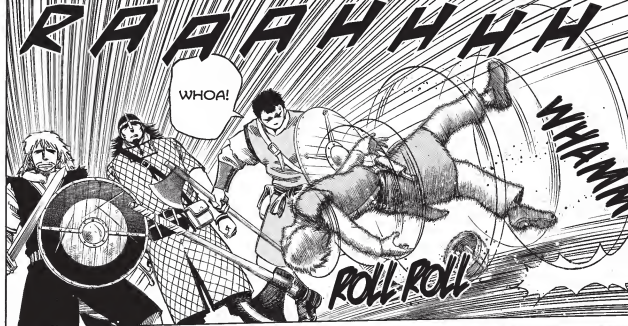


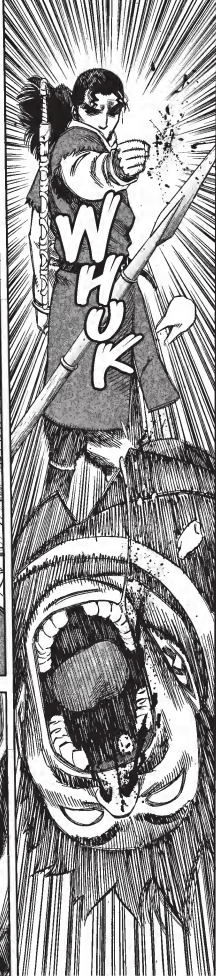
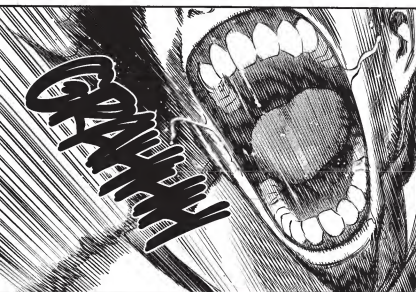
WHUMP

THUD



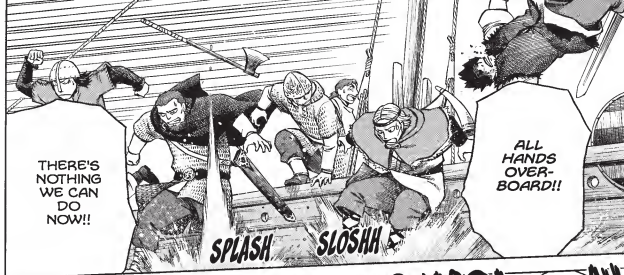


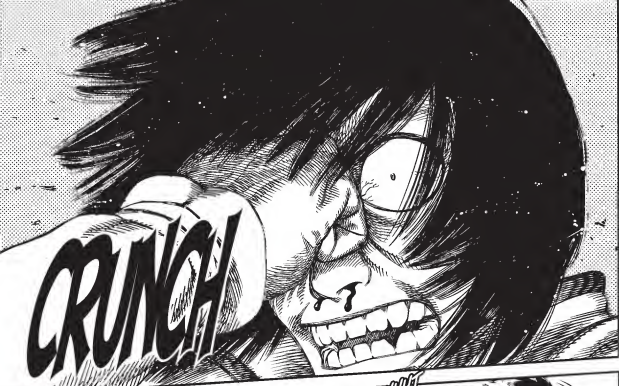


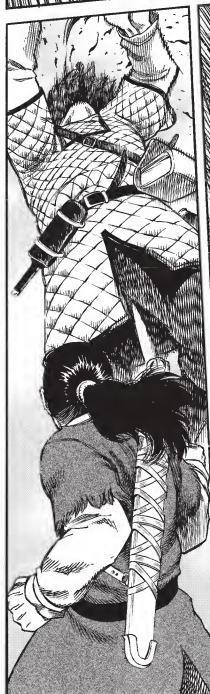














HE...HE'S
MORE
THAN A
MONSTER...



WHA...

HE DID
IT ALL
BARE-
HANDED...

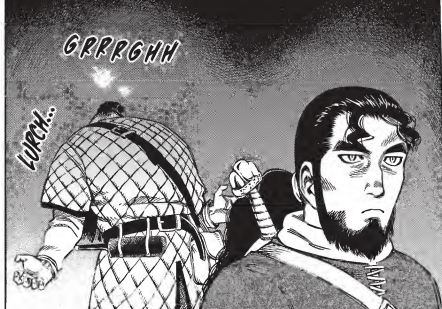


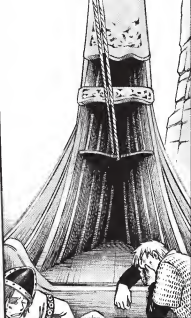
...FOR
THE
OTHER
SHIP.

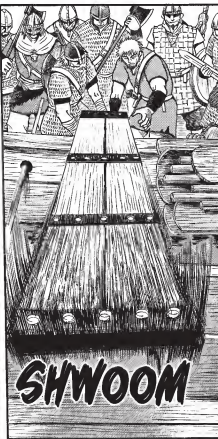
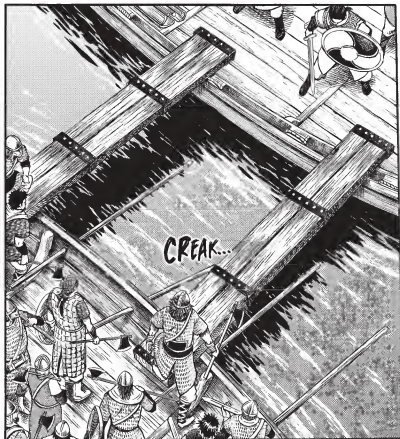
AND
NOW
...



HE'S A
TROLL...









DWAAH
?!

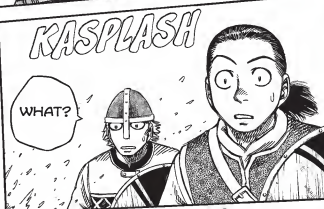
SPATCH

G R A A A

HUH?



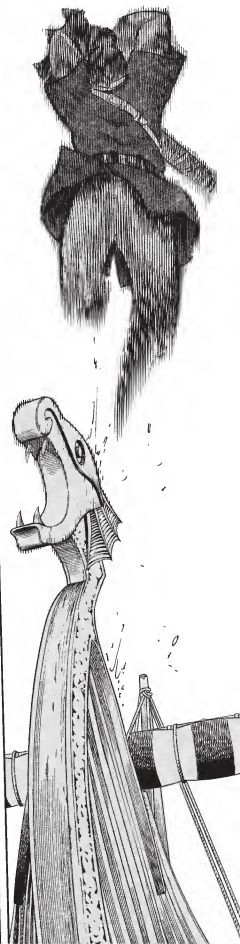
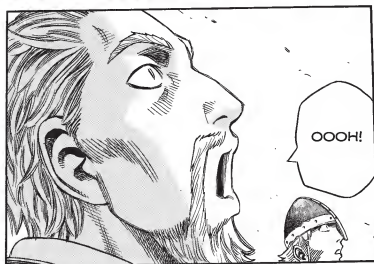
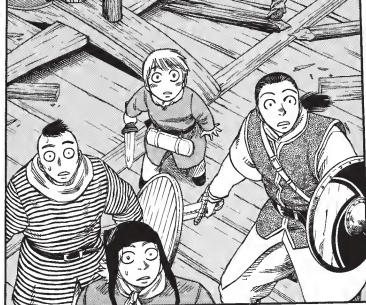
BJORN
?

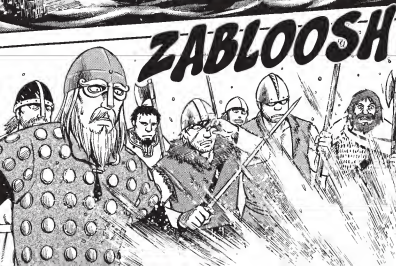
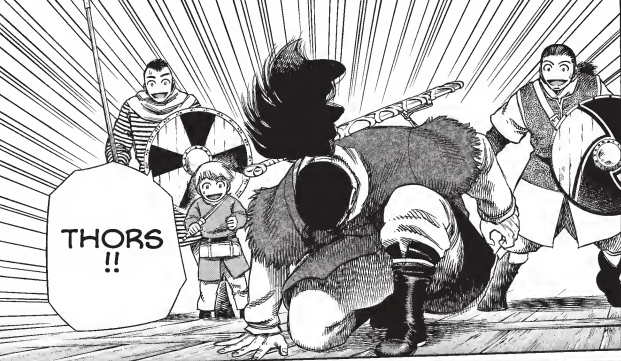


KASPLASH

WHAT?

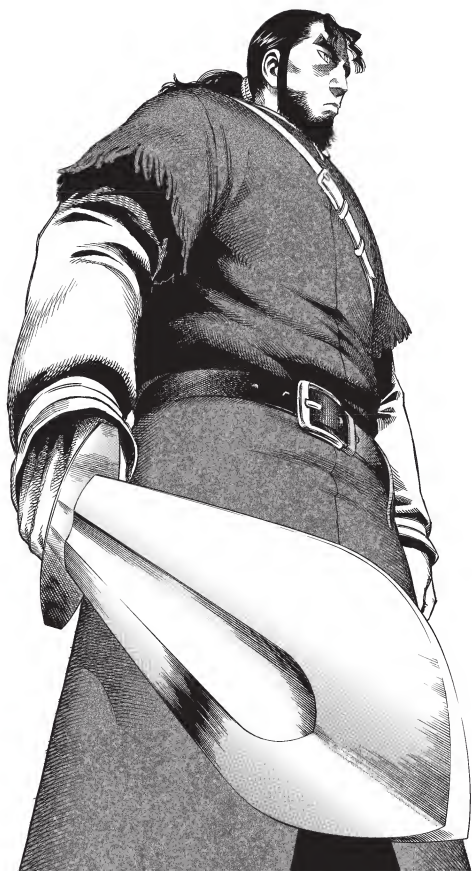


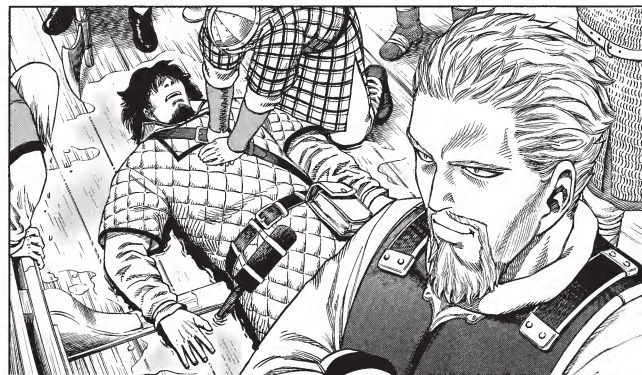
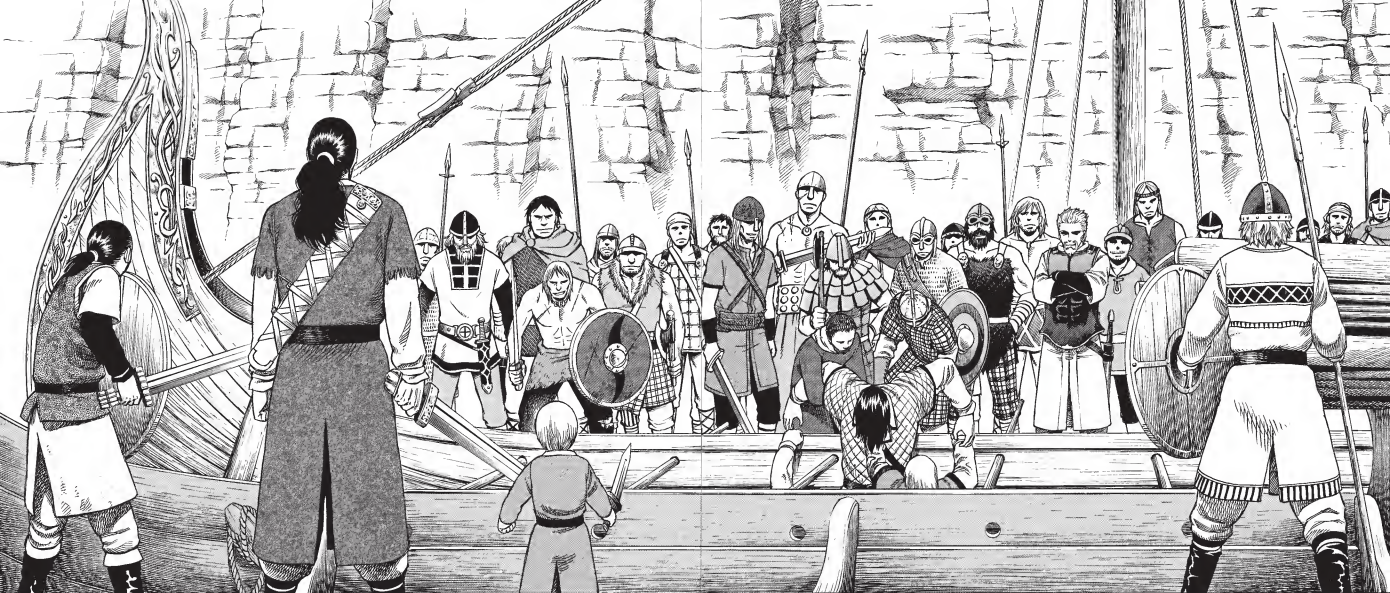






CHAPTER 13: SMELL







DON'T
RELEASE
UNTIL
ASKELADD
GIVES THE
SIGNAL!



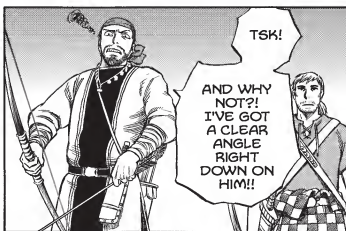
WAIT!

GRR...

COCKY
WHORE-
SON...



WHY'S HE
BIDING HIS
TIME?!
ASKELADD'S
NOT
NORMALLY
LIKE THIS!



TSK!

AND WHY
NOT?!
I'VE GOT
A CLEAR
ANGLE
RIGHT
DOWN ON
HIM!!

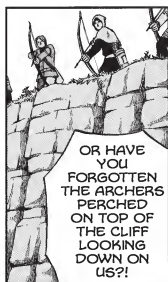


UP
AGAINST
TWO
WARSHIPS,
AND HE
HASN'T
GIVEN AN
INCH.

THE MAN
IS UN-
BELIEV-
ABLE...



...



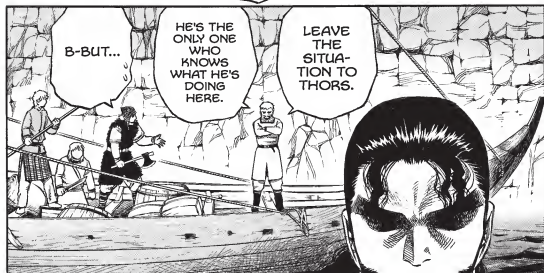
OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THE ARCHERS PERCHED ON TOP OF THE CLIFF LOOKING DOWN ON US?!



WE'D BE NO MEN OF THE SEA IF WE LET THORS DO ALL THE FIGHTING!

LET'S JOIN THE FRAY, LEIF!!

KEEP YOUR PANTS ON, YOU CLOWNS!



B-BUT...

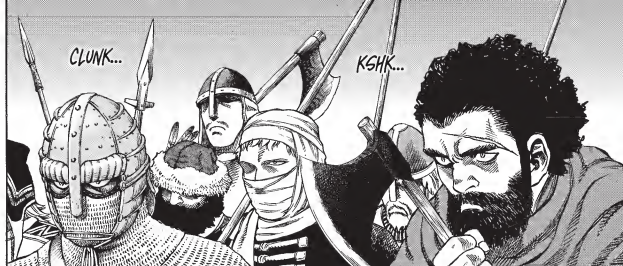
HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING HERE.

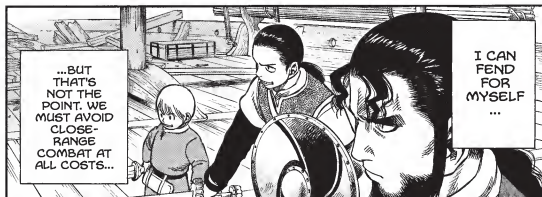
LEAVE THE SITUATION TO THORS.

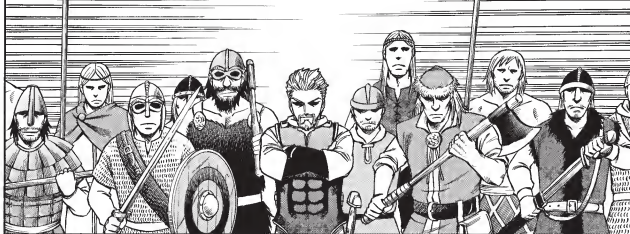


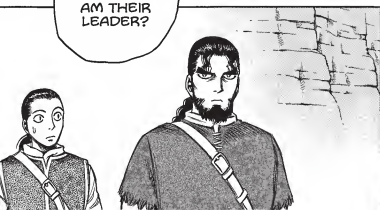
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY OTHER CHOICE!

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?! WITHOUT THORS, YOU'RE JUST A RABBLE OF CHILDREN AND MEN WHO'VE NEVER BEEN IN A REAL BATTLE IN YOUR LIVES!!



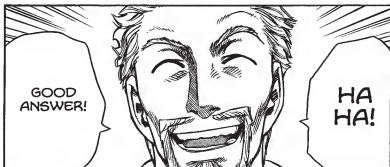






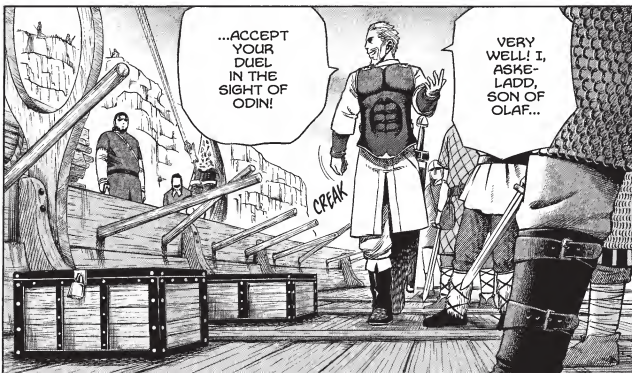
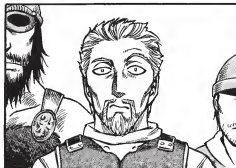


THE
SMELL.



GOOD
ANSWER!

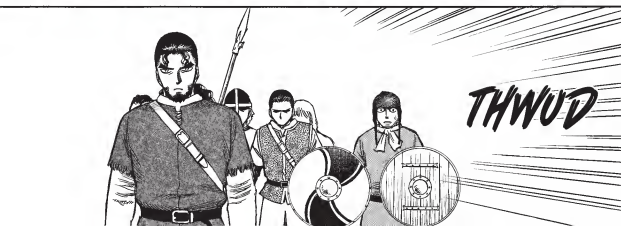
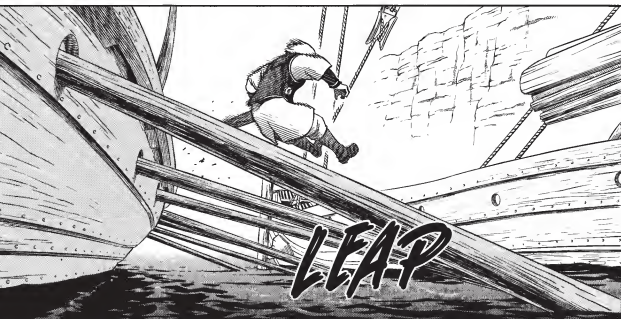
HA
HA!



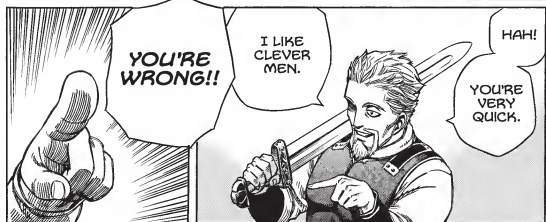
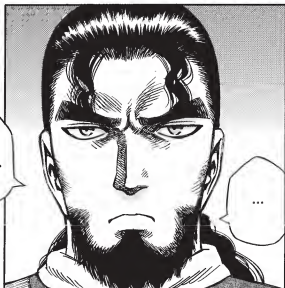
...ACCEPT
YOUR
DUEL
IN THE
SIGHT OF
ODIN!

VERY
WELL! I,
ASKE-
LADD,
SON OF
OLAF...

CREAK









FATHER'S
STRONG!
HE'S GONNA
KILL YOU,
PIRATE!!

YOU'RE
A BIG POO-
HEAD AND
YOUR ARMOR
LOOKS
STUPID AND I
HATE YOU!!

I TOLD
YOU TO
STAY
BACK!

FATHER'S
NOT A
BAD GUY
LIKE
YOU!!



IS HE
YOURS,
THORS?

HA
HA.

WELL,
THE
KID'S
GOT
PLUCK.



...

I
SEE...

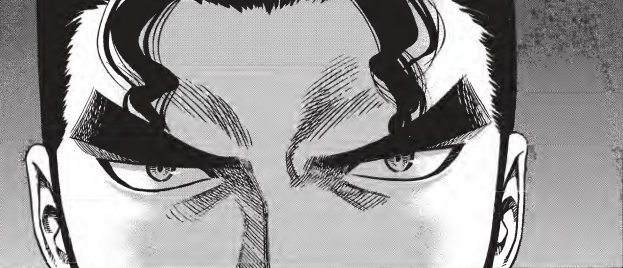


NO,
WHY?



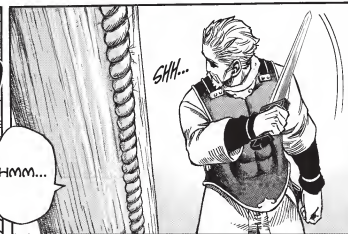
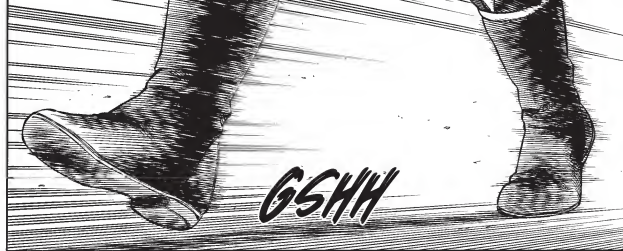
ASKE-
LADD...

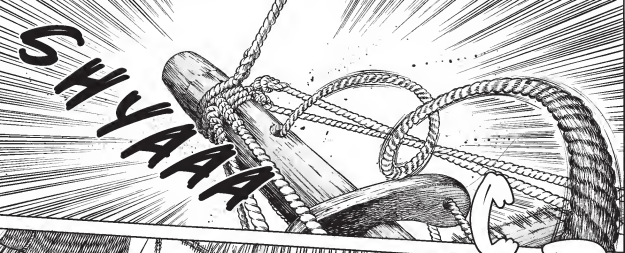
...DO
YOU
HAVE
A WIFE
AND
CHIL-
DREN?

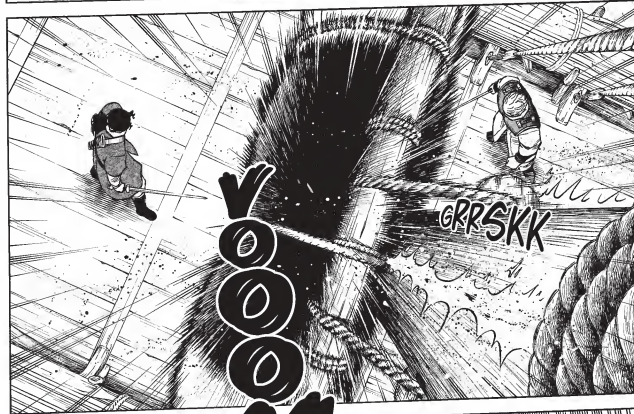
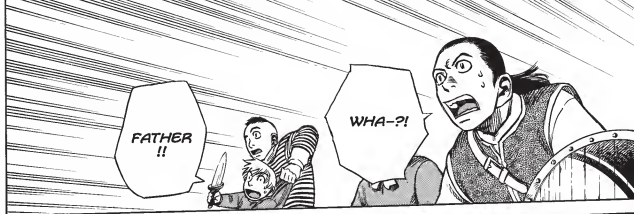


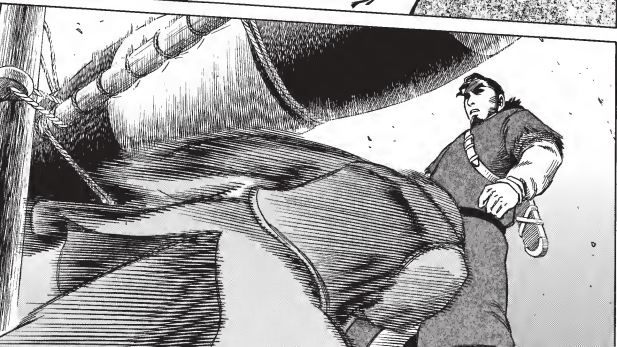
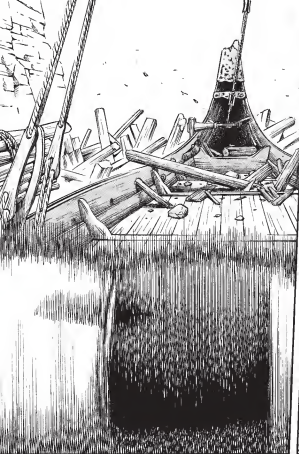
LET'S
BEGIN.

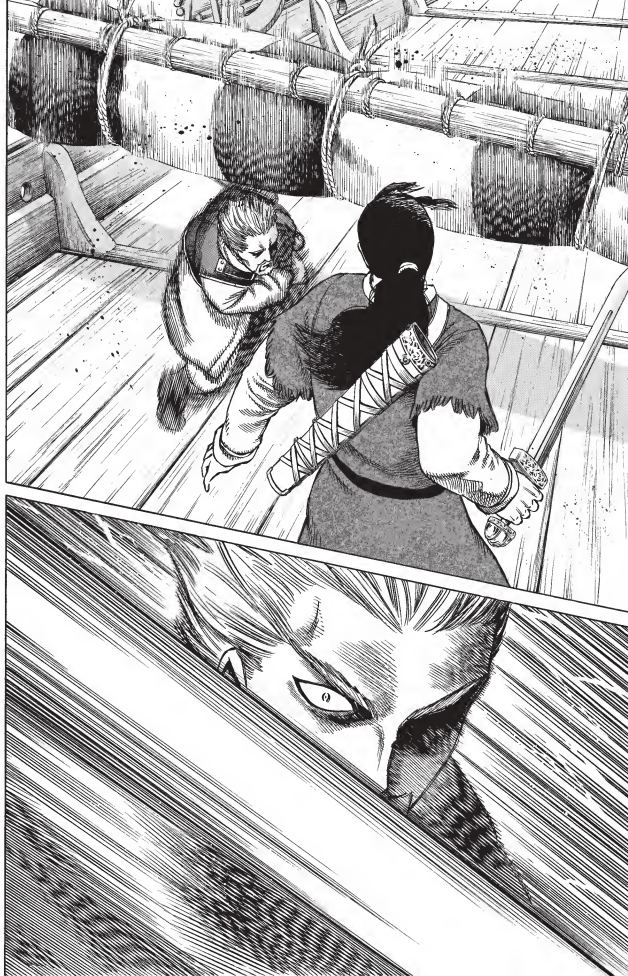
CREAK...

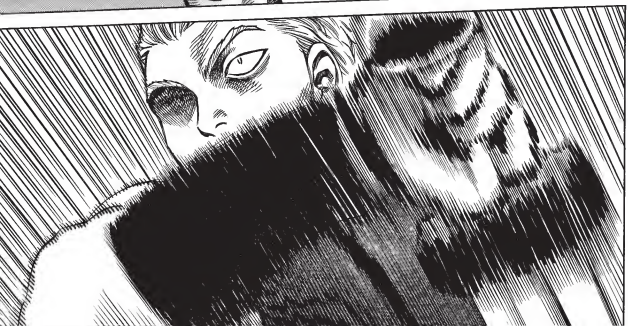
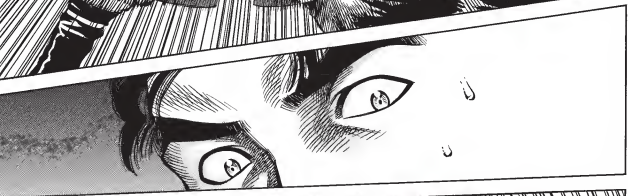
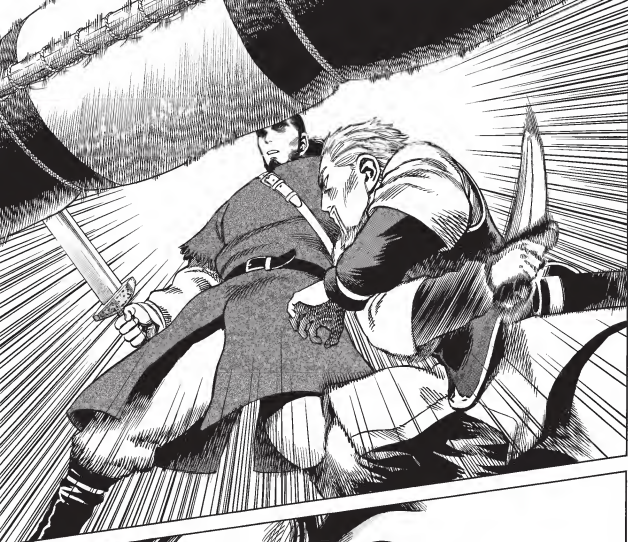


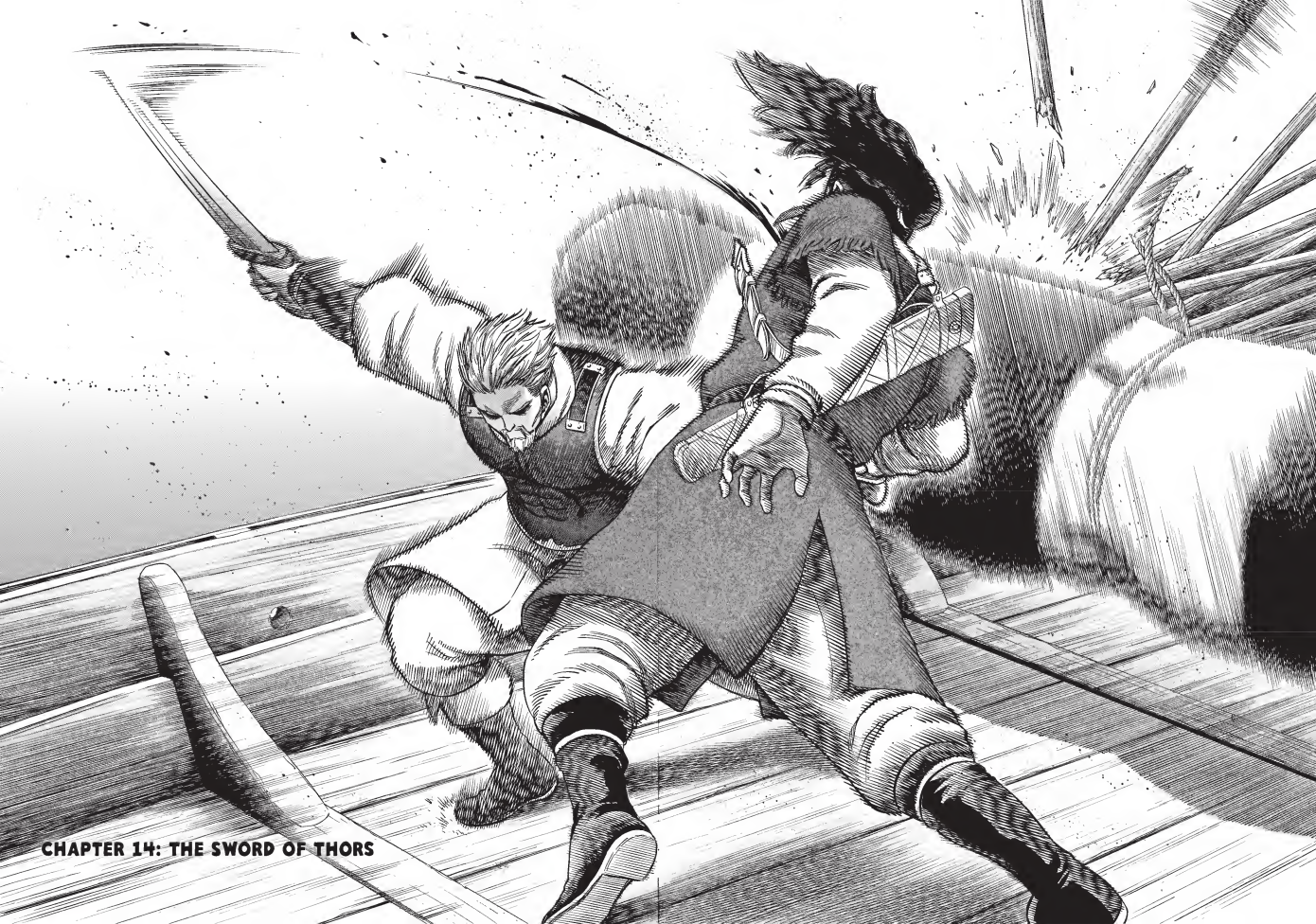




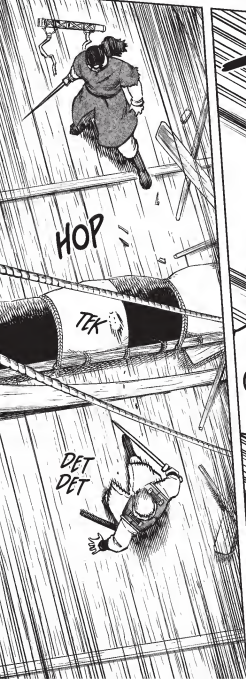














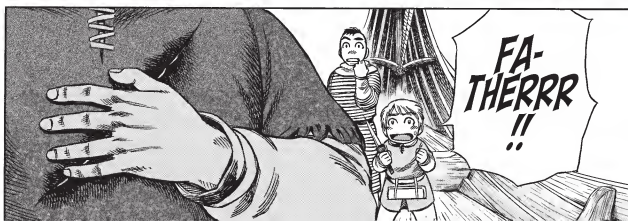
BRILLIANT
!!

RAAHHHH



THAT'S
THE
CHIEF
IN PEAK
FORM!!

THERE'S
NOT A MAN
ALIVE WHO
CAN MATCH
HIM IN
COMBAT!



FA-
THERRR
!!



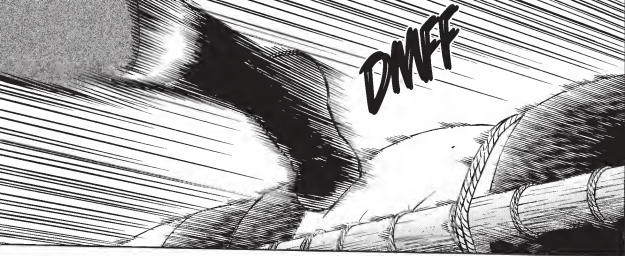
FFFH...

FORGIVE
ME,
ASKELADD.

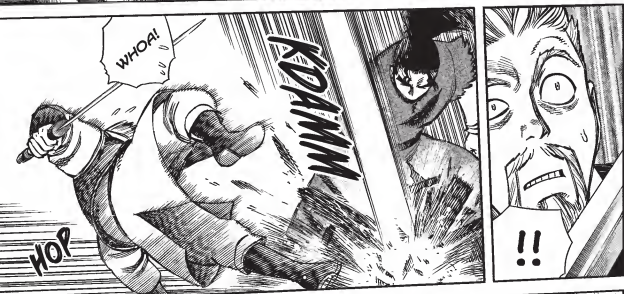
I CAN NO
LONGER
SPARE
YOU THE
BRUNT
OF MY
STRENGTH.

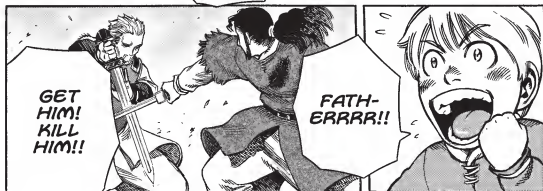
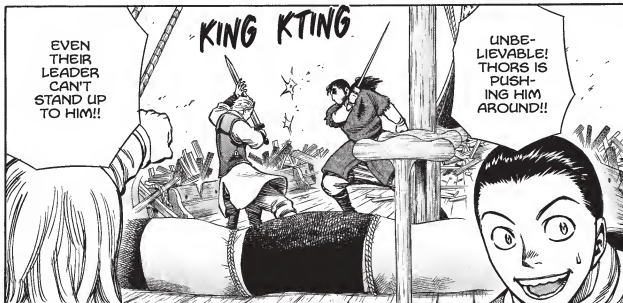
HA
HA...

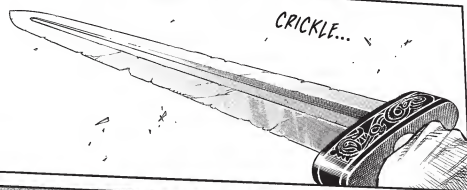
I'M
GLAD
TO
HAVE
MET
YOU,
THORS.

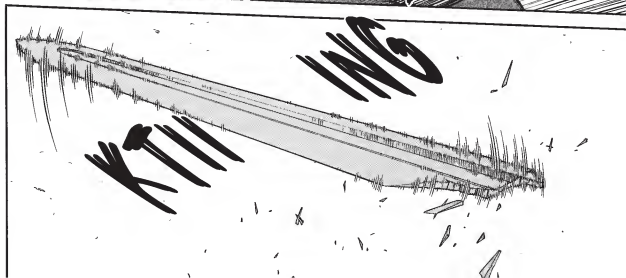
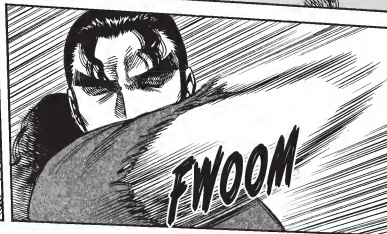
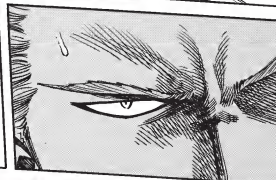


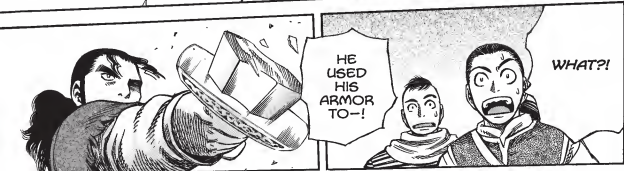






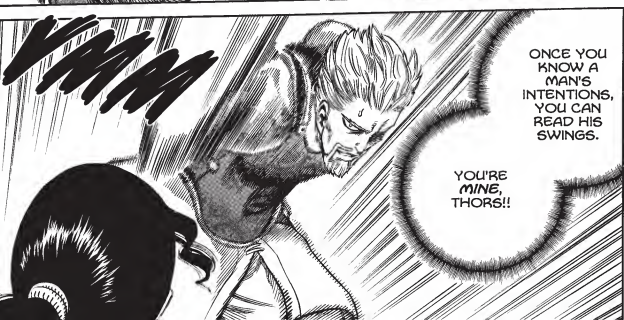






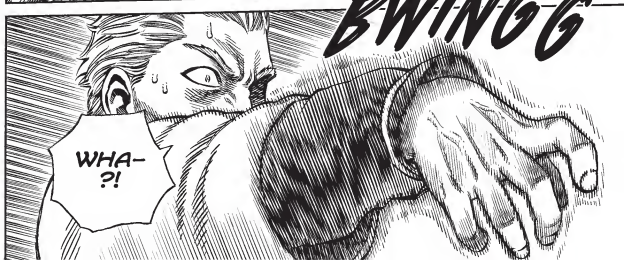
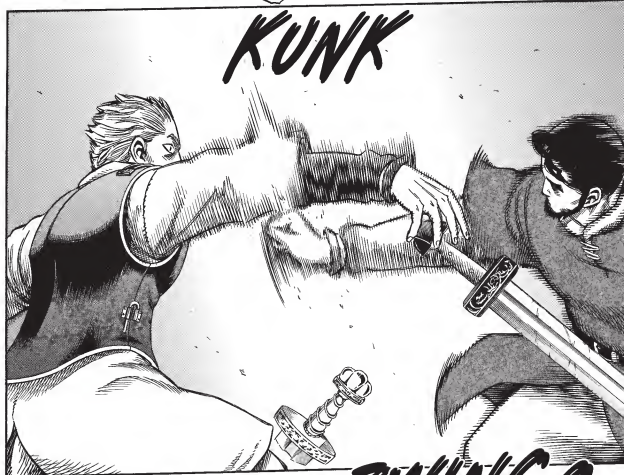
HE
USED
HIS
ARMOR
TO—!

WHAT?!

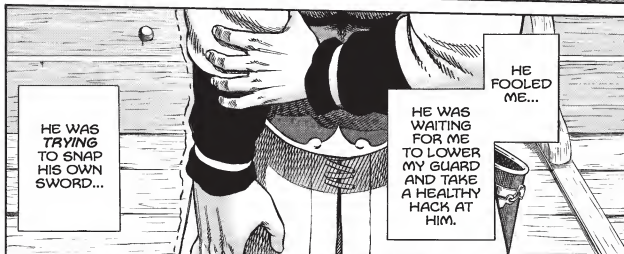


ONCE YOU
KNOW A
MAN'S
INTENTIONS,
YOU CAN
READ HIS
SWINGS.

YOU'RE
MINE,
THORS!!







HE WAS
TRYING
TO SNAP
HIS OWN
SWORD...

HE WAS
WAITING
FOR ME
TO LOWER
MY GUARD
AND TAKE
A HEALTHY
HACK AT
HIM.

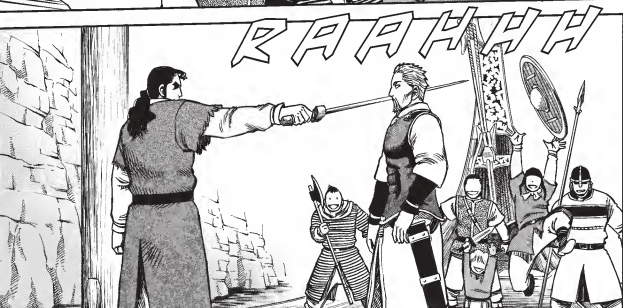
HE
FOOLED
ME...



I
DANCED
TO HIS
TUNE
LIKE A
FOOL...

DAMN
IT
ALL...

THE
ENTIRE
FIGHT
WENT
ACCORDING
TO HIS
SCRIPT,
NOT MINE.





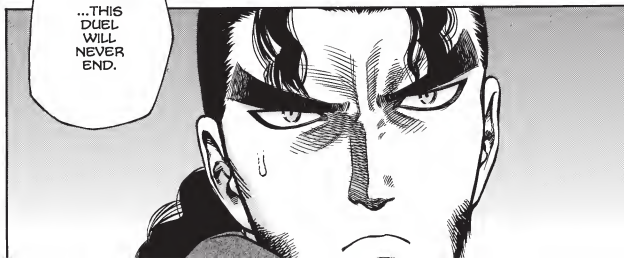
THE ONE
THING I
CAN'T DO
IS ADMIT
DEFEAT
BEFORE
THEM.

I'M THE
LEADER
OF THESE
MEN.



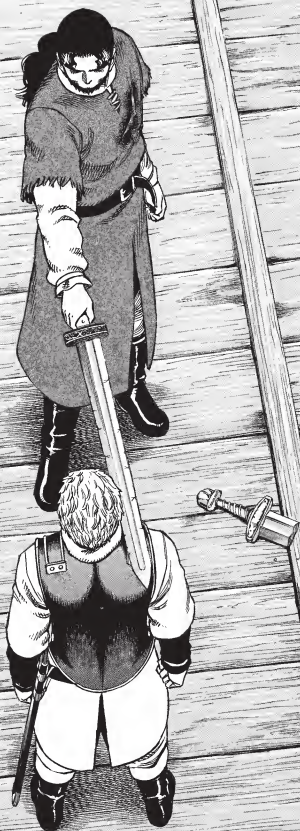
WHY
DON'T
YOU
JUST
KILL
ME?

IF YOU
DON'T
KILL
ME...



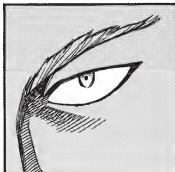
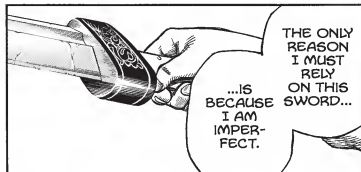
...THIS
DUEL
WILL
NEVER
END.

CHAPTER 15: A TRUE WARRIOR





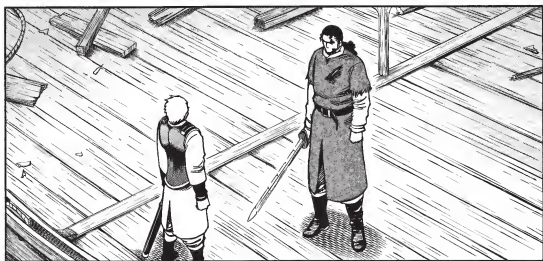
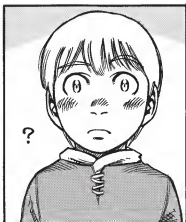


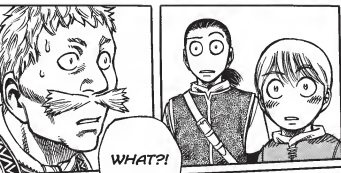


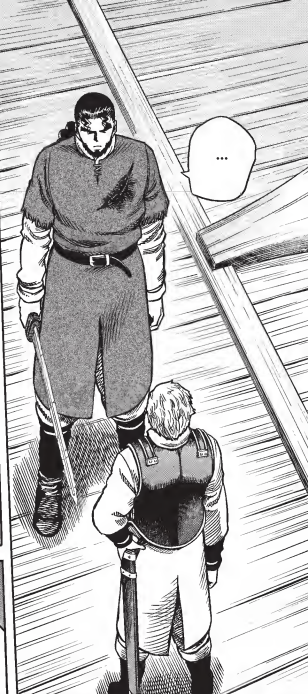
...NEEDS
NO
SWORD.

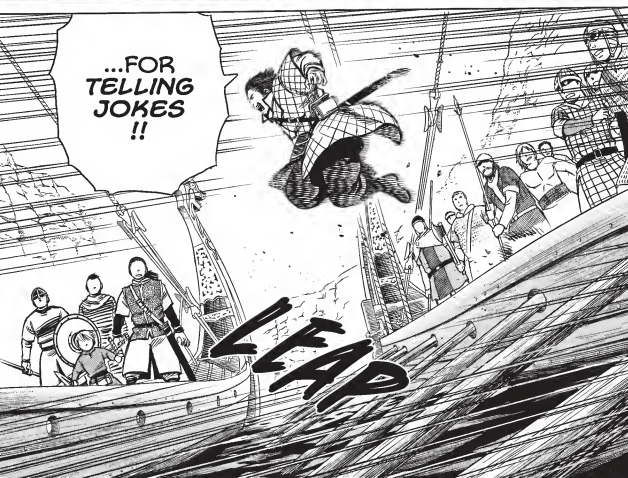
A
TRUE
WAR-
RIOR...

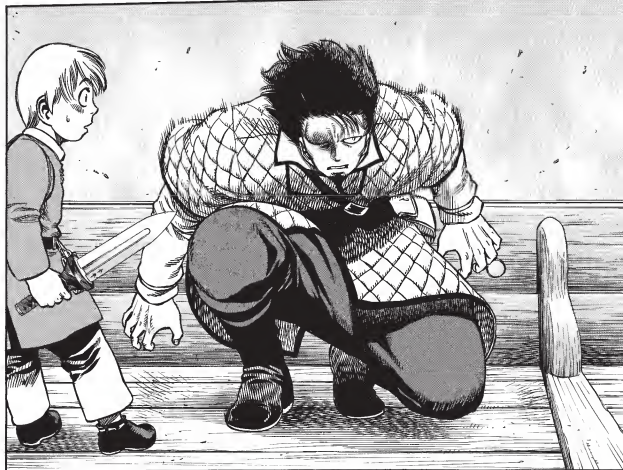


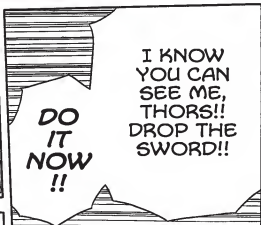


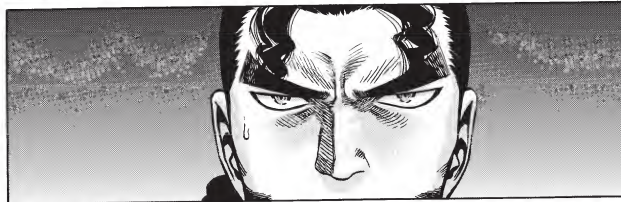
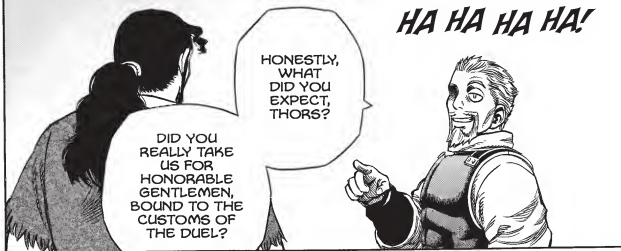


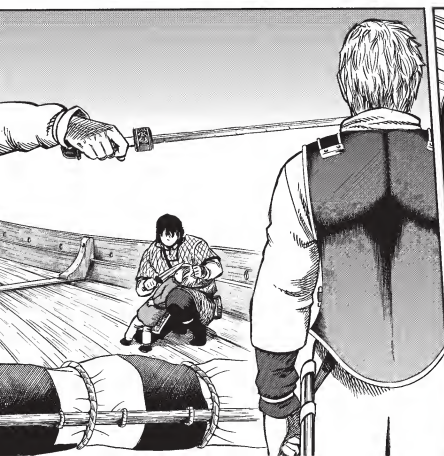
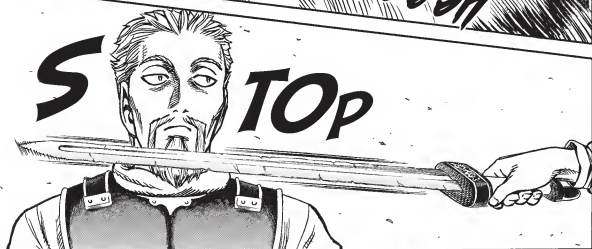
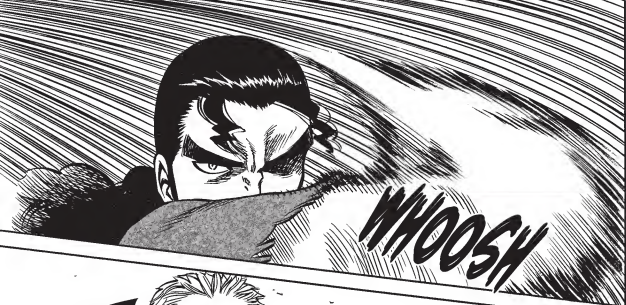


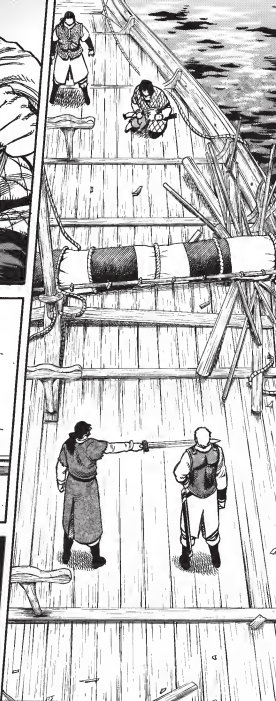
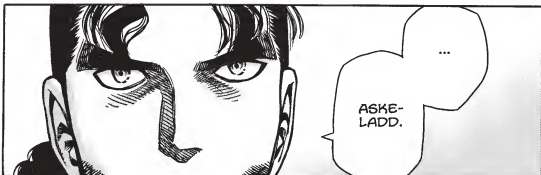
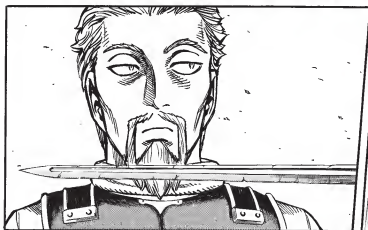
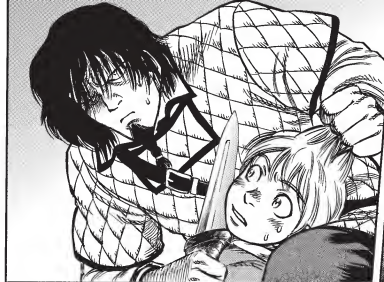








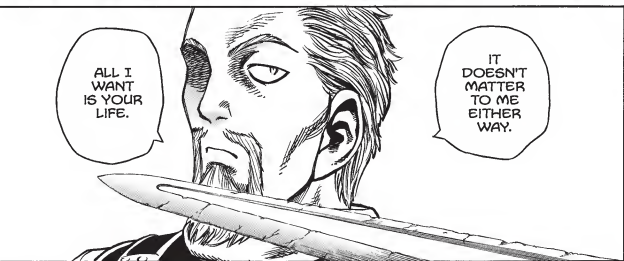






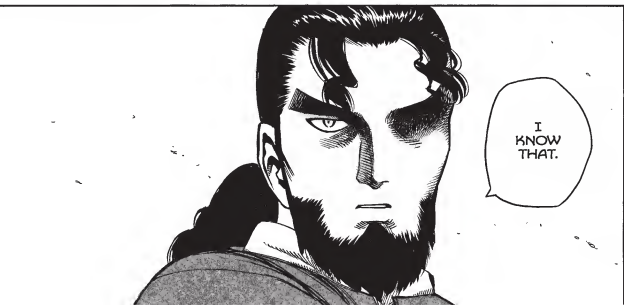
I AM
THE
WINNER.

YOU HAVE
VIOLATED
THE RULES
OF THE
DUEL.

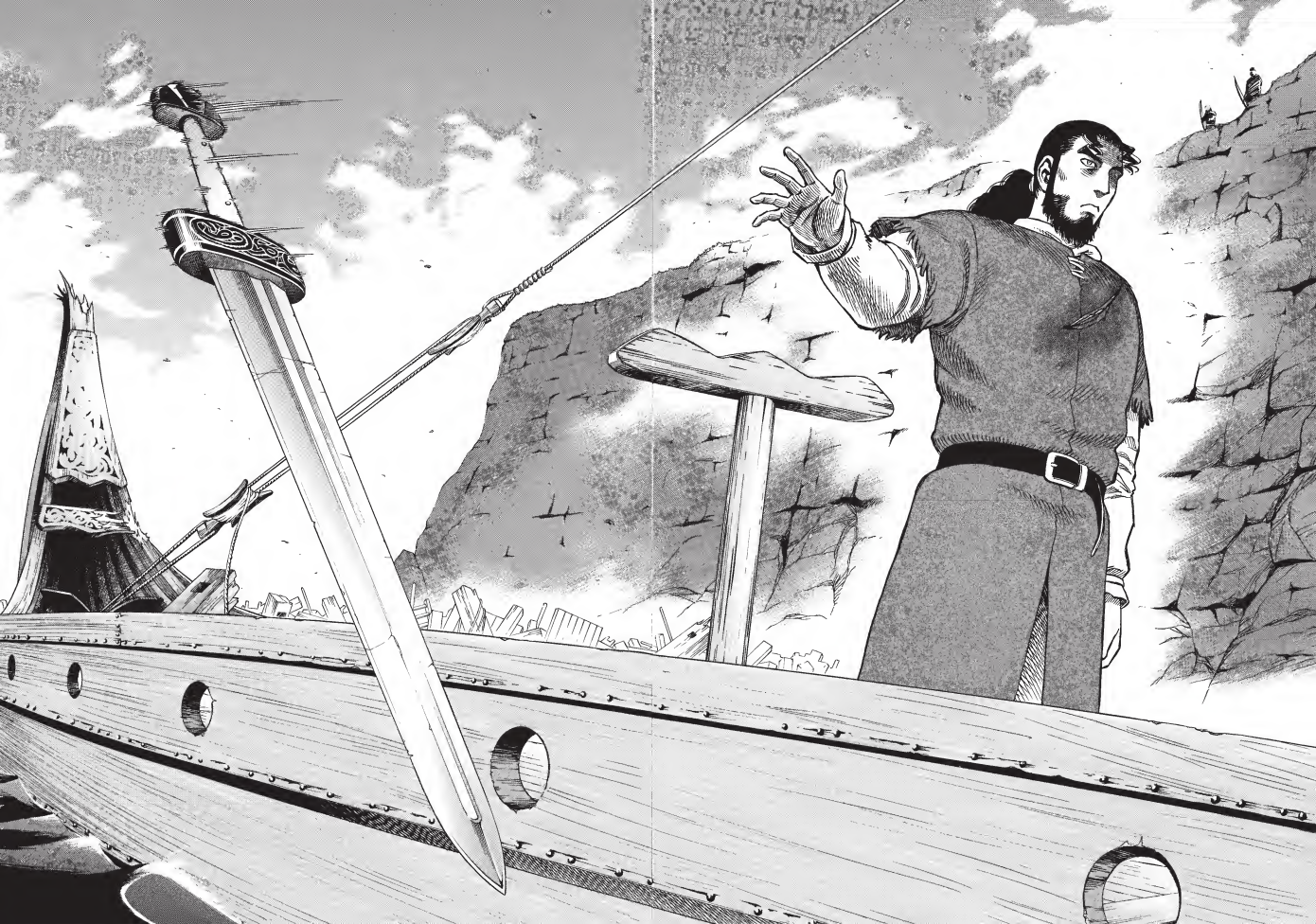


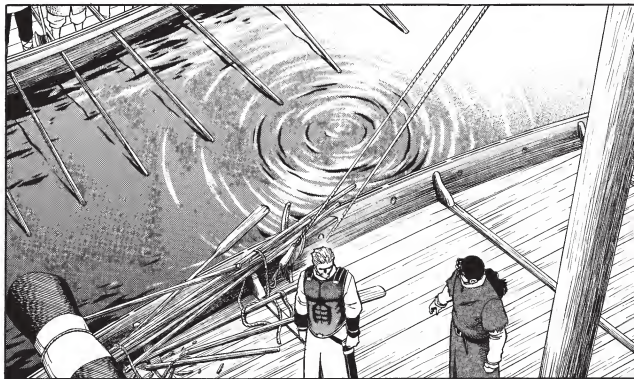
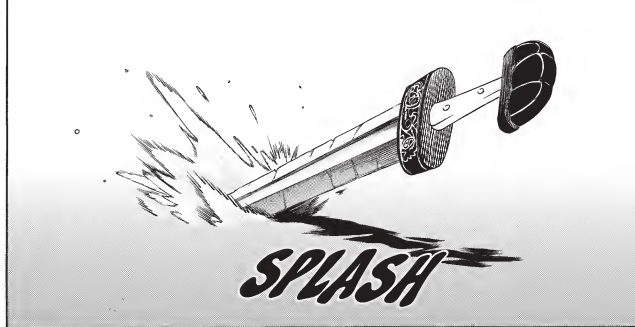
ALL I
WANT
IS YOUR
LIFE.

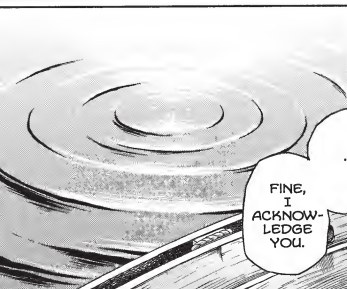
IT
DOESN'T
MATTER
TO ME
EITHER
WAY.



I
KNOW
THAT.







...

FINE,
I
ACKNOWLEDGE
YOU.

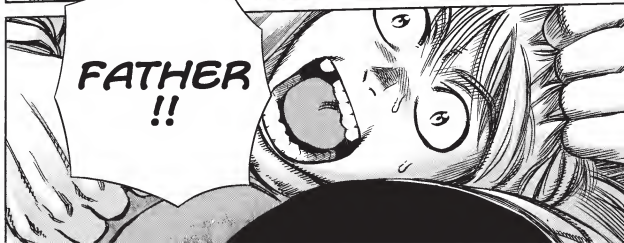


SHH...

...THIS
DUEL.

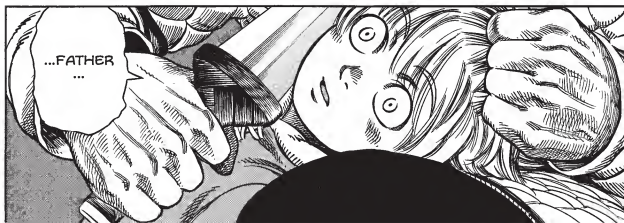
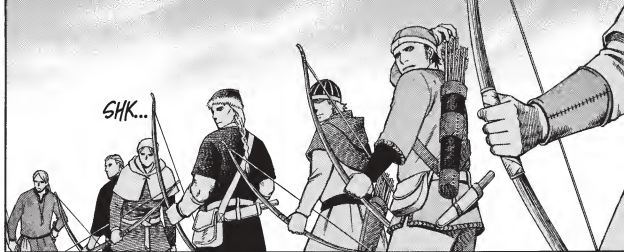
YOU
WIN...

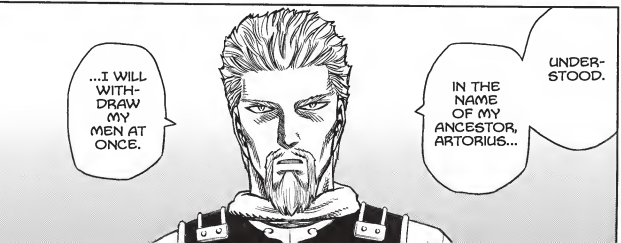




CHAPTER 16: THE DEATH OF THORS







UNDER-
STOOD.



I MUST
ASK
YOU TO
DELIVER A
MESSAGE.

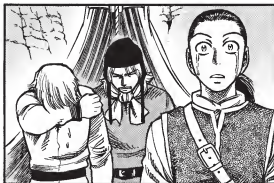
LEIF...



IF HE
BELIEVES
THAT I CHOSE
TO HIDE
RATHER THAN
HONOR HIS
SUMMONS,
MY VILLAGE
WILL PAY A
TERRIBLE
PRICE.

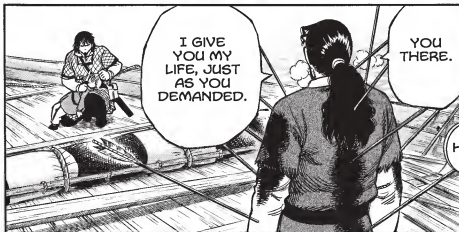
BRING
MY
HEAD TO
SIGVALDI,
CHIEFTAIN
OF
JOM...

...AND
TELL HIM
I WAS
SLAIN BY
PIRATES.



YOU
CAN'T BE
SERIOUS
!!

YOU...



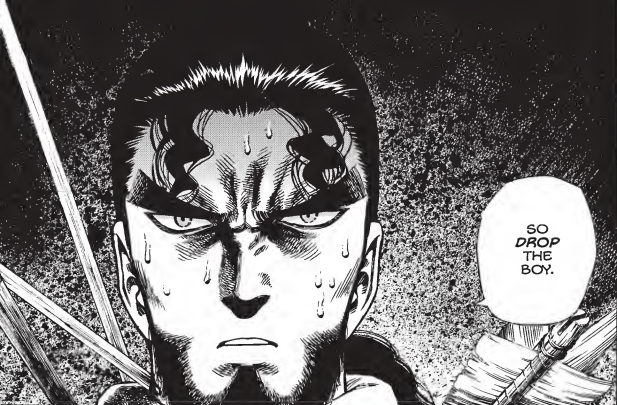
I GIVE
YOU MY
LIFE, JUST
AS YOU
DEMANDED.

YOU
THERE.

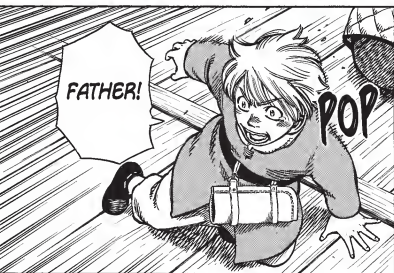


HFF!

HFF!



SO
DROP
THE
BOY.



FATHER!

POP



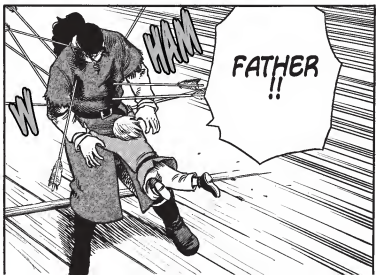
...

SHIVER

THWUMP



W
A
A
H
H



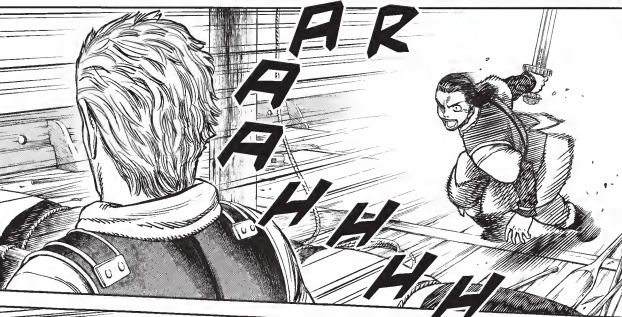
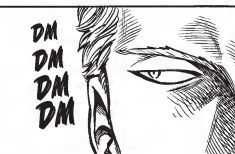
HAM

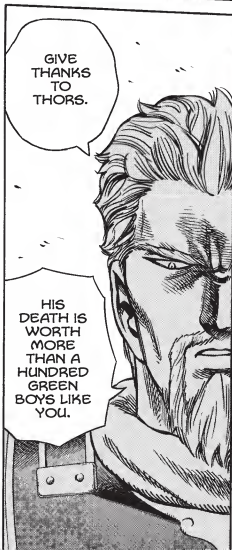
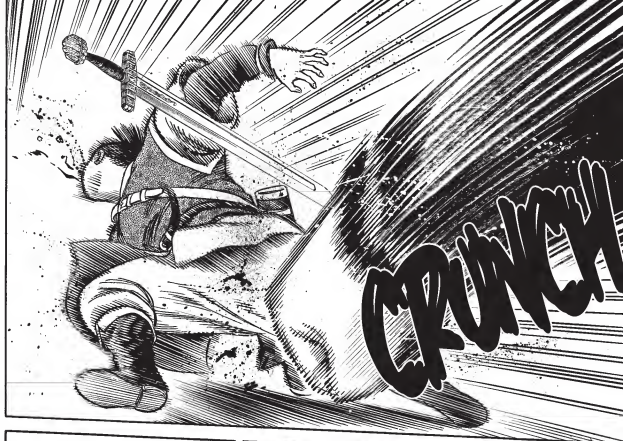
FATHER
!!



PHEWW —







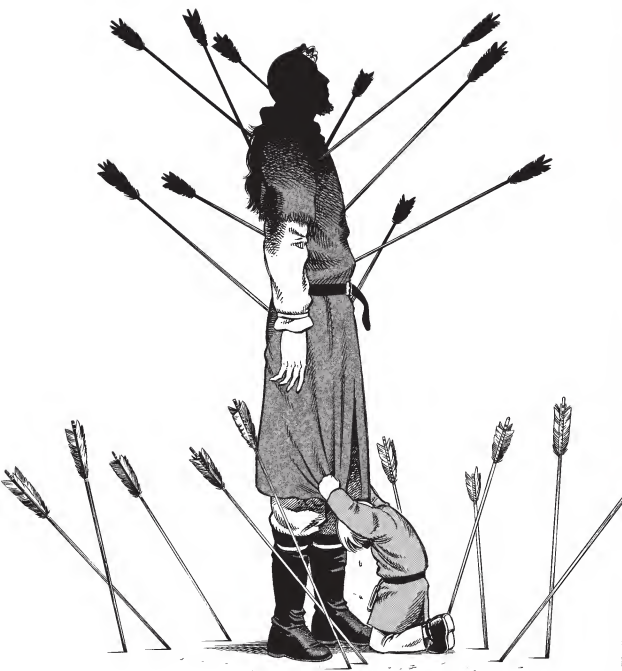
GIVE
THANKS
TO
THORS.

HIS
DEATH IS
WORTH
MORE
THAN A
HUNDRED
GREEN
BOYS LIKE
YOU.

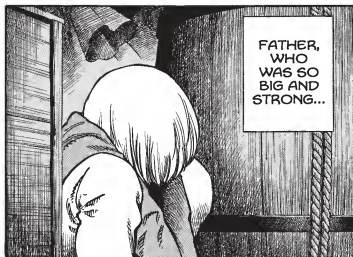


YOU
STUPID
LITTLE
SHIT.

TODAY
SHOULD'VE
TAUGHT
YOU TO
VALUE
YOUR OWN
LIFE.



FATHER
IS
DEAD.

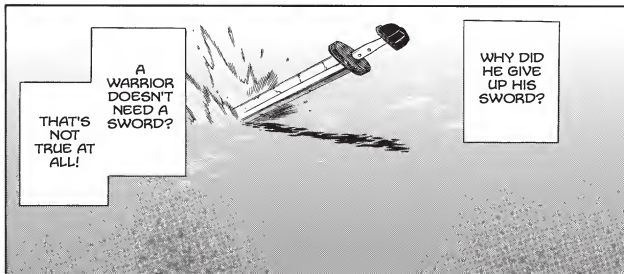


FATHER,
WHO
WAS SO
BIG AND
STRONG...



HE WAS
SHOT
FULL OF
ARROWS
...

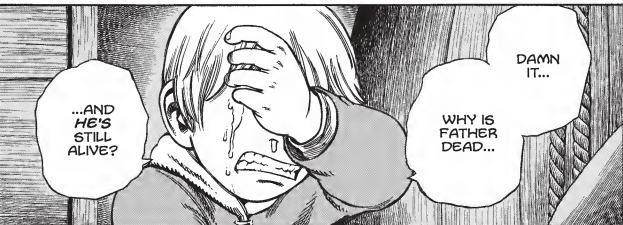
...AND
DIED.

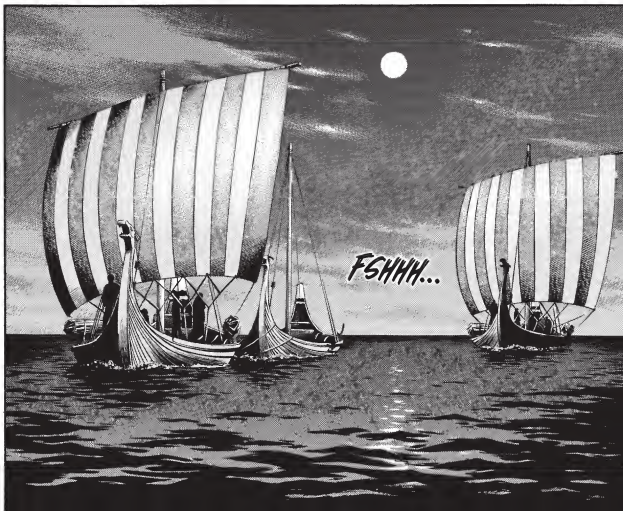
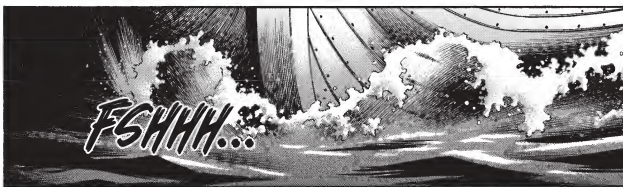
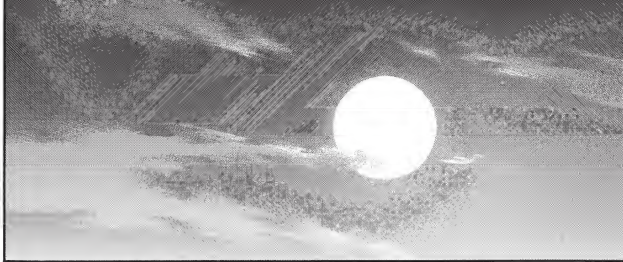


THAT'S
NOT
TRUE AT
ALL!

A
WARRIOR
DOESN'T
NEED A
SWORD?

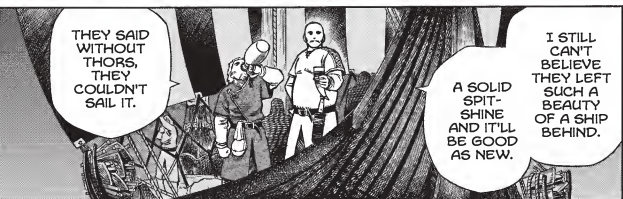
WHY DID
HE GIVE
UP HIS
SWORD?







THIS IS
A HELL
OF A
FIND.



THEY SAID
WITHOUT
THORS,
THEY
COULDN'T
SAIL IT.

A SOLID
SPIT-
SHINE
AND IT'LL
BE GOOD
AS NEW.

I STILL
CAN'T
BELIEVE
THEY LEFT
SUCH A
BEAUTY
OF A SHIP
BEHIND.



COMES AT
A GOOD
TIME,
THOUGH.
WE'VE
TAKEN ON
SO MANY
NEW
MEN...

...WE
WERE
NEEDING
A THIRD
SH...

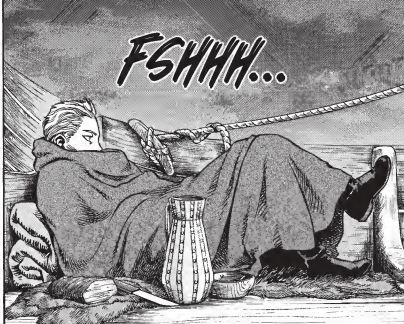
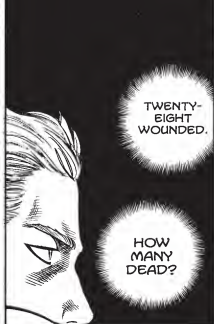


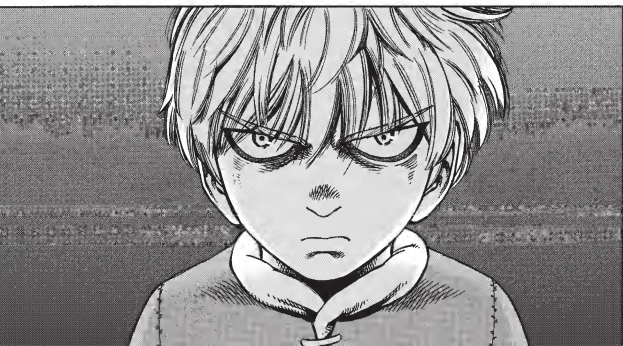
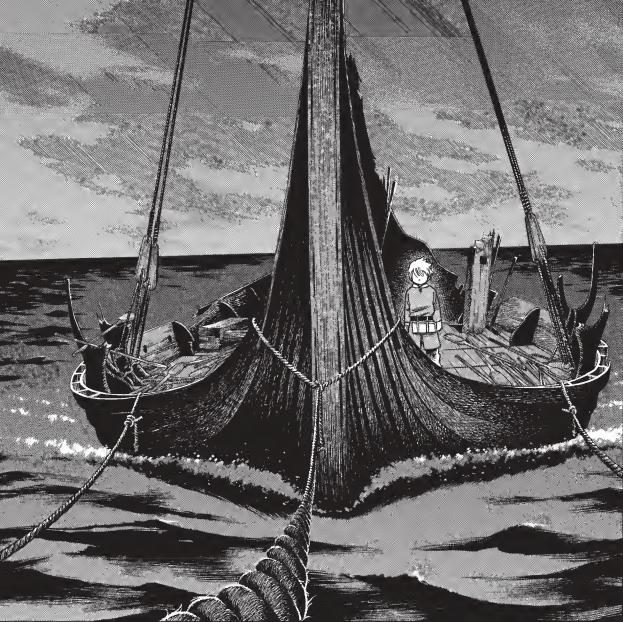
HMM?

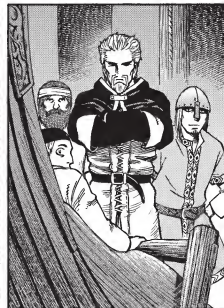
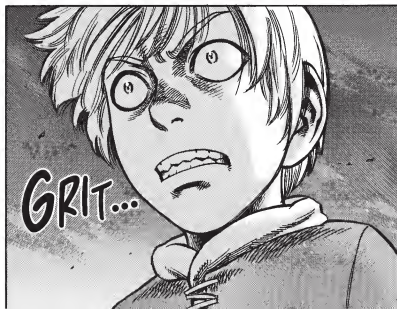
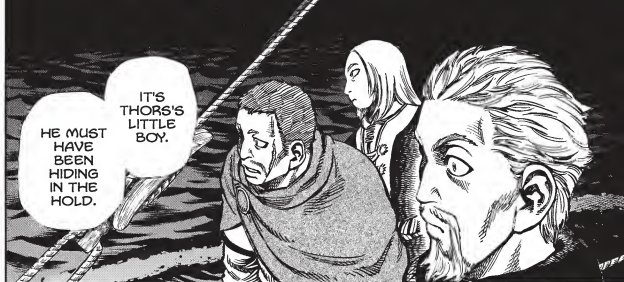


HE
ROWED
WITH THE
STRENGTH
OF FIVE
MEN,
APPARENTLY.

NO
KID-
THAT DING!
HUGE
OAR BE-
LONGED
TO THORS?

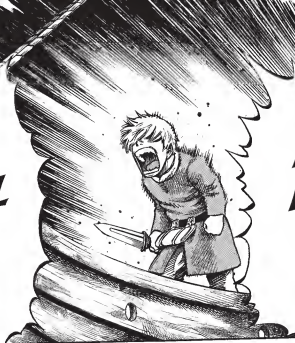






**HOW
DARE
YOU KILL
MY
FATHER
?!**

**HOW
DARE
YOU
?!**



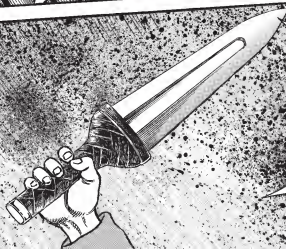
**I SWEAR
I'LL KILL
YOU!!**

**I'LL
KILL
YOU
TOO
!!**

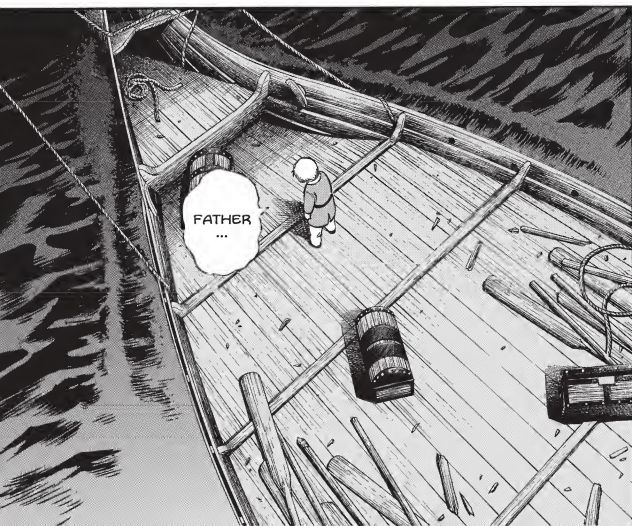
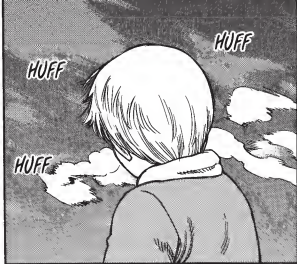
**I'LL KILL
YOU, I'LL
KILL YOU,
I'LL KILL
YOU!!**

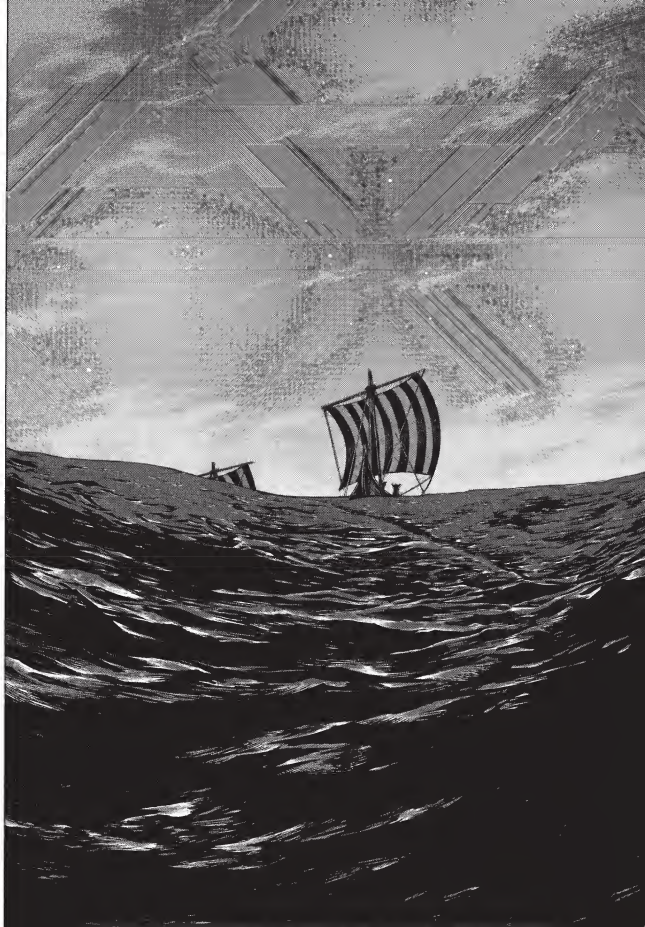


**I'LL
KILL
YOUU!!**









TO BE CONTINUED IN VINLAND SAGA, BOOK TWO

VINLAND SAGA MAP

THORFINN'S TRAVELS

THORFINN'S HOME VILLAGE

Thors fled the battlefield to live here, until the Jomsvikings found him.



THORFINN



THORS



YLVA



HELGA



ARI



FAROE ISLANDS, NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

Floki of the Jomsvikings secretly hired Askeladd to attack Thors's party here.



ASKELADD



JOMSBORG

The port town that serves as base of operations for the feared Jomsvikings, led by their chieftain, Sigvaldi.



FLOKI

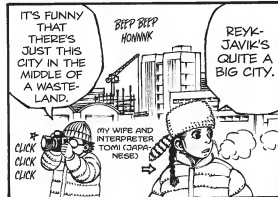
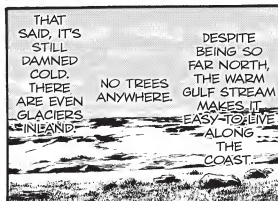
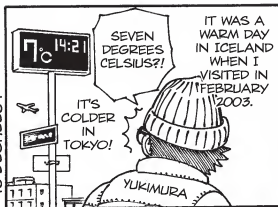
EARLDOM OF NORTHUMBRIA, NORTHERN ENGLAND

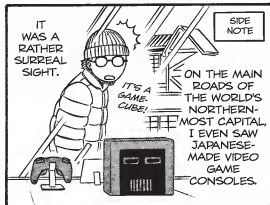
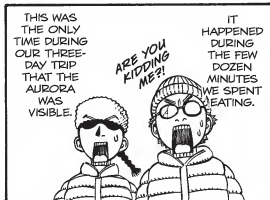
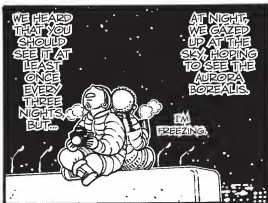
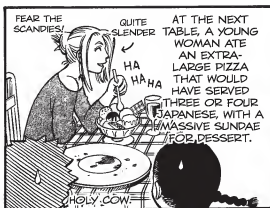
The King of England ordered the Viking settlements attacked, starting a full-scale war between Denmark and England.

I WENT TO THE LAND OF AURORA BOREALIS

BY:
MAKOTO YUKIMURA

* 45 DEGREES F

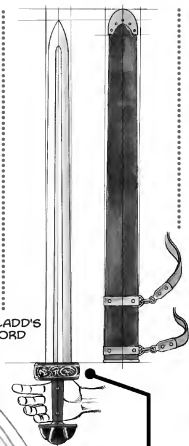




**SUPPLE-
MENTAL
DESIGNS**

ASKELADD

ASKELADD'S
SWORD



WOODEN
GRIP



AFTERWORD

Despite its breezier appearance, all that chainmail the Vikings wear weighs about forty-five pounds. The swords and axes add six to eight pounds each, and once the iron helmets, wooden shields and short swords are added in, the entire equipment tops out at over sixty-five pounds. I tried to wear all that armor myself and I could barely walk, much less fight. I'm truly grateful that I wasn't born in the age of the Vikings. Those guys are monsters.

**MAKOTO
YUKIMURA**



**VINLAND
SAGA**

Translation Notes

Normanni, page 2

The Latin form for “men of the North,” also known as Norsemen, Northmen, Normans, etc.

Frankish Kingdom, page 4



Strictly speaking, the Frankish Kingdom as it is defined today — France under the Carolingian dynasty made notable by Charlesmagne — did not exist as a state in the 11th century. Rather, it was a decentralized period where princes and other lords held regional power, while the king was more of a religious figure. The key word here is “territory,” i.e., land that was previously the realm of the Frankish Kingdom. The establishment of the Capet Dynasty in 987 created the first predecessor to what we define as France today.

Tyr, page 15



The Norse god of law, justice and war. By some accounts — the backgrounds, positions and importance of gods shift throughout history according to location and time period — Tyr is the son of Odin. He is invoked in this scene to emphasize the apparent truthfulness of the claim.

General Jabbathe, page 71



It should be noted that in the Japanese language, titles such as king, lord, president, and so on are always placed after the name rather than before. Thus, General Jabbathe appears as “Jabbathe-shogun,” where shogun is the word for a military commander. I’ll leave it to the reader’s discretion to discern the meaning (or lack thereof) behind this particular choice.

Jörmungand, page 139



Also known as the Midgard Serpent, a variant on the Ouroboros theme of a snake eating its own tail. Jörmungand is a sea serpent that encircles the globe and served as a likely explanation for ships going lost at sea.

Knarr, page 153

A type of cargo ship used by Viking merchants. A knarr (plural knerrir) was wider and deeper than the famous longships used for raiding, which made it more suitable for ferrying goods, food and livestock.

Thing, page 174



Thing is the Norse/Icelandic word for “gathering.” They were community meetings where legal grievances were addressed, among other things. The Althing was a national gathering of village representatives traditionally held at the Thingvellir plain starting in 930 A.D. with the founding of the Icelandic Commonwealth. This democratic structure was partly motivated by the desire to escape the authoritarian rule of King Harald of Norway. The Althing survived and is the official parliament of Iceland today, albeit in modern form.

Jomsvikings, page 207



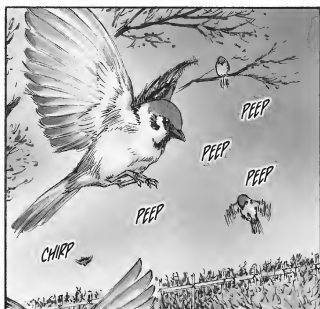
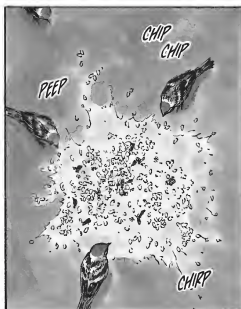
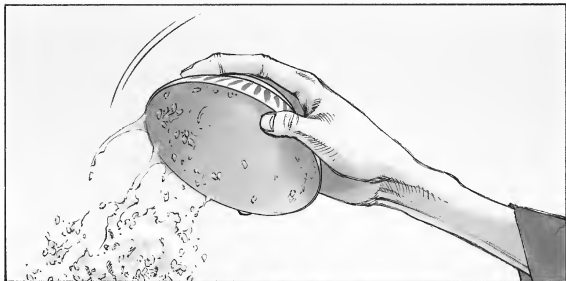
A legendary band of Viking mercenaries recounted in various Scandinavian epics. According to those legends, the Jomsvikings were active in the 10th and 11th centuries, but lack of primary evidence has led to debate over whether they truly existed or not.

Thingvellir National Park, page 229

The original home of the Althing, Iceland’s historical meeting place in which matters of government were discussed and decided. The park, located in southwest Iceland, was officially founded in 1930 to preserve the historic site.

BONUS STORY: FOR OUR FAREWELL IS NEAR







For Our Farewell Is Near, Part 1

By Makoto Yukimura

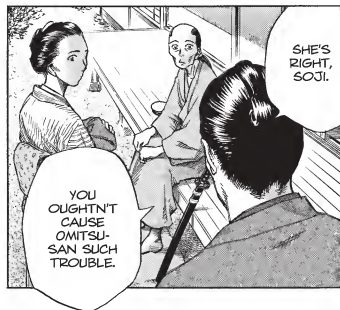
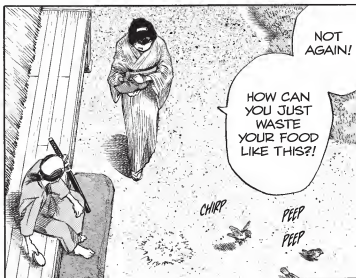
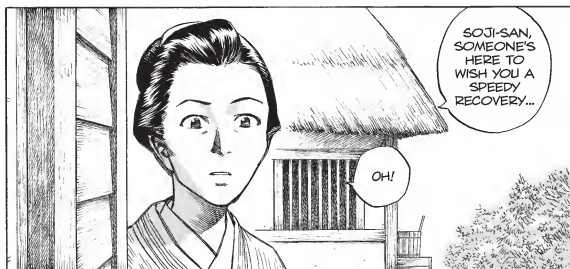
Introduction

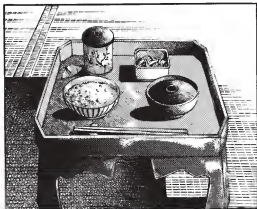
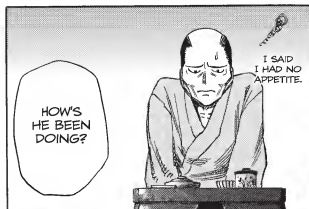
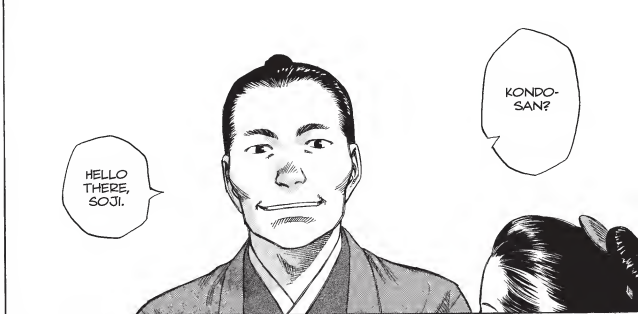
At the end of the Edo Period, the arrival of the “black ships” from abroad spelled the end of 260 years of isolation enforced by the shogunate. In response to the shogunate’s desire to open the country’s borders, disgruntled regional forces loyal to the emperor, such as the Choshu Domain, planned a rebellion. The imperial loyalists massed in Kyoto, where the emperor lived, growing increasingly bold until the city became, in effect, a lawless area. In an effort to restore order, the shogunate recruited ronin (masterless samurai) in Edo (now Tokyo) and sent them to Kyoto.

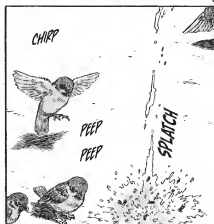
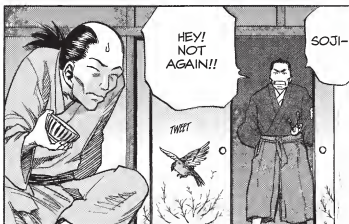
Among these men were Kondo Isami and Okita Soji, students at the Shieikan dojo in Tama. Upon reaching Kyoto, they formed the Shinsengumi under the orders of the daimyo of Aizu Domain, who had been charged with keeping the peace in the city. But, unable to reverse the tide of history, the shogunate lost power, and the Shinsengumi was defeated at the Battle of Toba-Fushimi. By 1868, Kondo and Okita had fled to Edo. Okita’s body was already wracked with tuberculosis at this time.

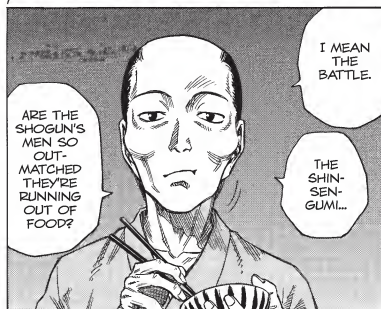
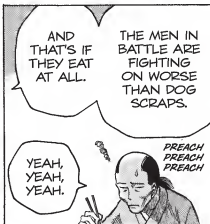
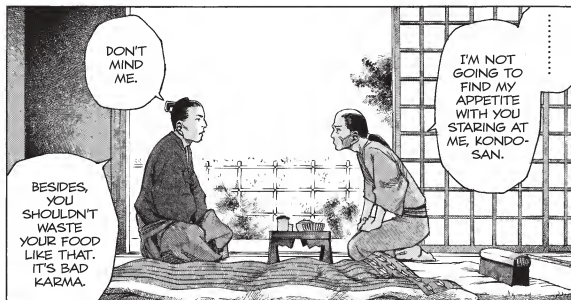
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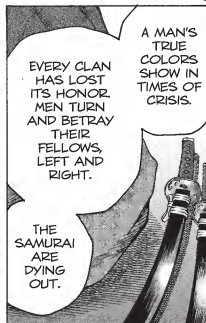
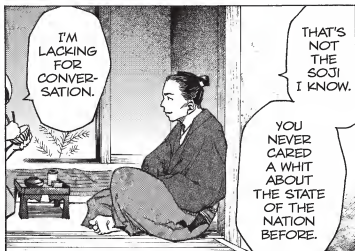
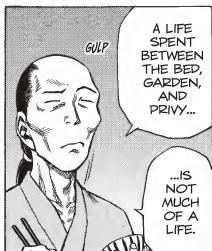
This story first appeared in 2004 in Kodansha’s Evening magazine. This is the first time it has been published in English.













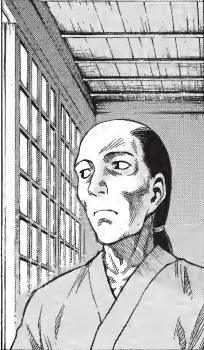
...YOU SAY?

THE TRUE WAY...

TWEET

CHIRP

PEEP



LORD YOSHI-NOBU MIGHT GIVE UP, BUT I NEVER WILL.

I'LL GATHER MORE MEN AND SLAY EVERY LAST REBEL TO BE FOUND.

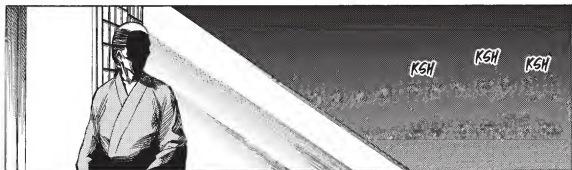
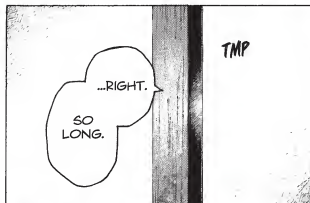
I WILL TRAVEL TO KAI WITH THE SHIN-SEN-GUMI.



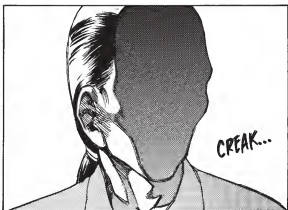
EAT AND REGAIN YOUR STRENGTH, SOJI.

UNTIL NEXT TIME.





10



TO BE CONTINUED IN VINLAND SAGA, BOOK TWO

Vinland Saga volume 1 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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